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THE LITERARY DIGEST
for MAY 13, 1933

VOLUME 115 NUMBER 19

Published at 354-360 Fourth Avenue
New York

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Information for Subscribers

TERMS: $4.00 a year, in advance; $2.00, six months; 10 cents a copy; Canada, $6.60 a year; $3.30, six months; 15 cents a copy; other foreign countries, $5.00 a year.

Semiannual Indexes will be sent free to subscribers who apply for them.

Instructions for *renewal, discontinuance* or *change of address* should be sent two weeks before the date they are to go into effect. Both old and new addresses must always be given.

THE LITERARY DIGEST is published weekly by Funk & Wagnalls Company, WILFRED J. FUNK, *President;* ROBERT J. CUDDIHY, *Vice-President and Treasurer;* WILLIAM NEISEL, *Secretary,* 354-360 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y. London Office, 14 Salisbury Square. Printed in the U. S. A. Entered as second-class matter, March 24, 1890, at the Post-Office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Additional Entry at Chicago, Ill., and Columbus, O. Entered as second-class matter at the Post-Office Department, Ottawa, Canada.

THE LITERARY DIGEST title is registered in U. S. Patent Office, and in Foreign Countries. PUBLIC OPINION, New York, and CURRENT OPINION, New York, combined with THE LITERARY DIGEST. (Titles registered in U. S. Patent Office.)

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The Literary Digest

NEW YORK, MAY 13, 1933

TOPICS OF THE DAY

The Farm-Inflation Bill—Tragedy or Triumph?

ARE WE WALKING OFF A PRECIPICE?

Or are we finally about to climb prosperity peak? These and kindred questions flood the press and keep the nation bubbling with excited talk as the United States prepares to launch upon an experiment of tremendous importance.

This experiment is legalized by the drastic provisions of the farm-relief bill, which gives the President virtually dictatorial powers over the currency and agriculture.

What it all boils down to is that we are deliberately entering upon an era of higher prices in the hope of thus conquering the depression. How is this to be done?

First, it is planned to give the farmer a big boost toward prosperity by guaranteeing him, under certain regulations, higher prices for his crops. This is based on the ground that restoration of the farmer's buying power will benefit the entire country.

Another way in which the farmer will be aided will be through the reduction of his mortgage debts. These provisions of the bill are explained in greater detail in the box on this page.

BUT, far-reaching as these plans are, they do not create anywhere near the turmoil stirred up by the Thomas amendment to the farm bill, which gives the President the right to issue new money and to reduce the gold content of the dollar by as much as 50 per cent.

This is inflation, but how will it work? Whom will it help and whom will it hinder? Well, it all depends—upon the degree to which the President puts his new powers into effect, for, it is important to remember, these powers are permissive, not mandatory, and he can do whatever he thinks best.

Primarily, the object of inflation is, we read, to boost the price of commodities. It aims to ease the country's burden of debt, to stimulate industry, and thus create jobs.

One school of thought says it can't be done—that we are starting out the way of Germany, and that inflation, once started, can not be stopt. To these people the Thomas amendment is, in the phrase of Representative Fish of New York, "the most amazing, daring, and dangerous piece of legislation ever offered to the American people."

But we must have inflation to stop the ruinous deflation of the last few years, says the other side. As Representative Pou of North Carolina sees the situation:

"The nation is in the position of a patient in a hospital who is badly in need of a blood transfusion. We are voting to the President the authority to make that transfusion, and we know he can be trusted to exercise his authority wisely and to the best interests of the country."

BUT again—how will inflation work? In an effort to reduce this complicated problem to simple terms, the Chicago *Tribune* uses the question-and-answer method, and we quote:

"Q. Whom does inflation help?

"A. It helps any one who has commodities or labor for sale.

"Q. How is that expected to overcome the depression?

"A. Because of the lessened value of money, more of it will be put in circulation to purchase commodities, and the pace at which money circulates will be increased.

"Q. Why is it said inflation helps the debtor and hurts the creditor?

"A. Because the debtor pays his debt in money that is of lessened value [it will not buy so much in commodities]."

Another way of explaining the purpose of inflation is to use the phrase of the Milwaukee *Journal*—"to make the debts cheaper." To illustrate why something has to be done about the enormous load of debt we carry, it cites an example given by Prof. Edwin M. Kemmerer of Princeton University:

"'Debts, unfortunately, do not decline in volume as income fades away, or as the value of the dollar in which they are payable increases. Three years ago it took about seventy-five bushels of farmers' wheat to pay a $100 indebtedness.

"'To-day it requires 138 bushels. With carpenters' wages at

Points in Farm-Inflation Bill

Provisions of the farm-relief bill, as passed by the Senate, are summarized thus by the New York *Times:*

DIRECT AGRICULTURAL RELIEF

The President and the Secretary of Agriculture are authorized to use one or all of three methods to raise farm values as follows:

1. Domestic Allotment—To determine the consumption of wheat, cotton, corn, hogs, dairy products, tobacco, rice, and beet- and cane-sugar; to license producers and processors so that only domestic consumption requirements shall be sold in the domestic market at prices equal generally to the average in 1909-1914, and to collect a tax from processors to pay the cost.
2. To lease marginal lands and withdraw from production sufficient acreage to cut production of agricultural commodities to domestic needs.
3. To guarantee cost of production to farmers (opposed by House conferees).

An amendment providing that the 2,500,000 or more bales of cotton held by farm-credit agencies as collateral for crop production and other purposes should be withheld from the market until the spring of 1934 was adopted.

FARM-MORTGAGE RELIEF

To refinance through voluntary arrangements with mortgagors farm mortgages at interest rates of 4½ per cent. through the issuance of bonds, the interest of which would be guaranteed by the Government.

INFLATION

Authorizing the President to use three methods of raising the dollar values of commodities.

1. By increasing Federal Reserve credits by a maximum of $3,000,000,000.
2. By issuing up to $3,000,000,000 of Treasury notes, secured not by gold, but solely by the credit of the United States. This money would be used to buy back government securities.
3. Devaluing the gold content of the dollar by as much as 50 per cent., with additional authorization for the President to establish, at his discretion, a fixt ratio of silver to gold and to provide for the unlimited coinage of silver at that ratio.

The Senate also approved an amendment permitting the acceptance of as much as $200,000,000 of silver at a maximum rate of fifty cents an ounce, on the war debts.

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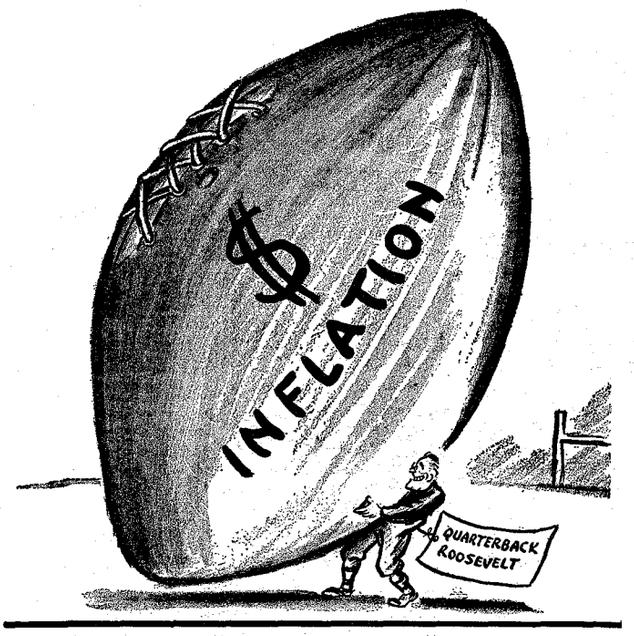
$10 a day it took ten days' work to pay $100 indebtedness; with wages at $7.50 (if the carpenter has any work) it takes thirteen days to pay the same $100 debt.'

"That's why debts are crushing the debtors—and that includes corporations with heavy bank loans or bonded debts and



Let's Hope the Play Works

—Cowan in the Boston "Transcript."

shrinking incomes, as well as the individual who owes money to the bank on his mortgage or has debts of any kind."

INFLATION will not be a painless process, but, in the long run, its advocates declare, we should all benefit.

"Frankly," writes B. C. Forbes in the New York *American*, "for a period this rise in prices will hurt rather than help wage-earners, salaried employees, those dependent upon interest on their capital. But we have already seen that rising prices have increased demand," he adds, and "increasing demand means, of course, increasing employment." Then: "Increasing employment will mean still further increase in buying power and buying, more demand for commodities, and, as a corollary, more and more jobs, with an upward trend in wages."

If the inflation program works, a great variety of benefits will flow from it. Senator Thomas of Oklahoma, who sponsored the amendment, summarizes these benefits thus:

"Owners of bank deposits will begin immediately to convert such deposits into commodities, real estate, and property, to secure the benefits of the advances in price and value.

"Owners of collateral will begin immediately to negotiate loans, in order to be able to take advantage of the rising prices.

"Merchants will begin to place orders for goods to restock their empty shelves.

"Wholesalers will begin to place orders for additional stock to supply increasing demand.

"Manufacturers will take chances on opening their factories, thus making demand for raw materials.

"Such activities will make business for the railroads, transportation companies, transmission companies, and banks.

"Labor will be employed, and additional demands will arise for the products of the farmers, hence stimulate and raise farm and commodity prices.

"Bank credit and bank deposits will be thawed out, and banks will become active once again.

"Value will be replaced in all kinds of collateral and security.

"Credit will be in demand, and will begin to expand and revolve.

"The people will be able to secure money with which to pay taxes, interest, and debts."

It was on April 28 that the Senate passed the farm-relief bill after a hot debate on the Thomas amendment. The vote was 64 to 20.

The House pushed the bill through on May 3, and it went to conference for adjustment. In the House, the only recorded vote was on the inflation amendment, which was adopted 307 to 86.

WHILE the farm bill was being debated in Congress, bitter attacks were made by some papers on the inflationary provision. But as it became certain that the measure would become law, there seemed to be a tendency to soft-pedal the criticism and hope for the best. From *The Wall Street Journal*, however, there comes the grim reminder that all of us—"farmers, wage-workers, salaried folks, industrialists, and silver-producers"—must remember these things later on:

"1. That it was a controlled inflation that we asked for and authorized;

"2. That we appointed the President to determine the time and manner of its initiation, the degree of its intensity, the time for which it should continue.

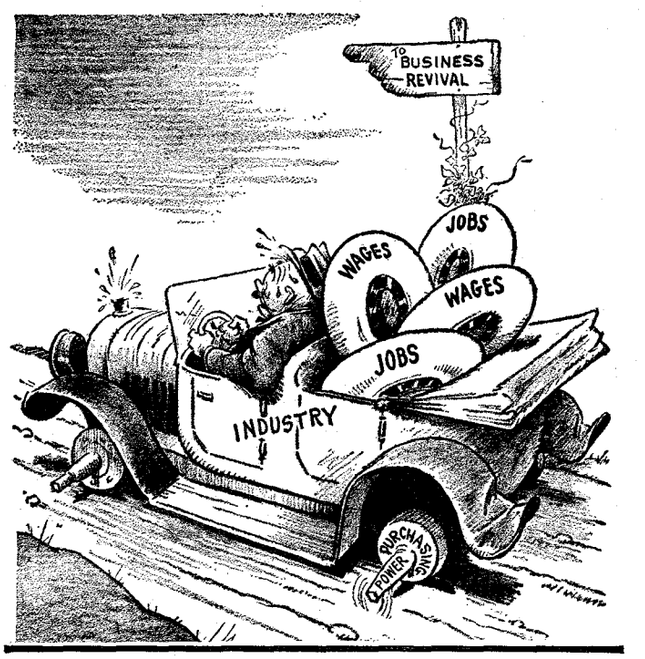
"3. That when we asked him to assume these heavy responsibilities we took upon ourselves the moral obligation not to attempt to thwart him in meeting them.

"4. That we know that currency inflation has always been hazardous to the wage-worker, to the owner of every sort of thrift accumulation, to all those ordered processes of production and distribution by which four-fifths of the people earn their bread; that if the experiment in monetary manipulation in which we insist upon participating burns our fingers, we shall have ourselves chiefly to blame."

Other papers, too, express misgivings. But many have absolute confidence that now, at last, we are on our way back to prosperity.

"If the President is right," says the Norfolk *Ledger-Dispatch*, "he is brilliantly and prophetically right. If he is wrong, he is terribly and calamitously wrong. It behooves us all to hope, and keep on hoping, that he is right."

"Tho we stand somewhat in awe before the magnitude of what we are undertaking," remarks the Minneapolis *Journal*, "we need not doubt that we shall somehow succeed"—



One Reason We're Not Making Much Progress

—Talburt in the Washington "Daily News."

"And if we succeed, not only will we have lifted ourselves into great prosperity, but we will have raised our standing as an intelligent and constructive people, and will have shattered age-old financial and economic theories."

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Roosevelt's Higher-Wage and Team-Work Remedy

THEY APPLAUDED till the red and yellow tulips on the tables shook when the President tilted his chin at a sharp angle and said:

"Our national economy must be exprest in terms of the whole, rather than in terms of the unit."

The enthusiasm of the 1,500 diners, representing the might of American industry as members of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, "could not be overemphasized" as Mr. Roosevelt pleaded for cooperation for national recovery.

He spoke softly, but behind his words was the familiar Rooseveltian suggestion of "the big stick," a warning that unfair minorities in industry would not be permitted to hamper the majority. For "the task of getting industry back to normal," as the Indianapolis *Star* asserts, "is too serious and too gigantic to permit any one to stand in the way."

But to the average man, seeing prices already starting upward under the inflation program, the most important part of the President's speech was his statement that wages should be increased now.

"I present to you three requests," he said to these big employers, and the first of all was for fatter pay envelops. Pointing out that "during the last few weeks we have witnessed a slight, but definite, upturn in most industries, a simultaneous rise in most commodity prices," he said that "past experience indicates that when the price-level begins to rise after a long period of declining commodity prices, wages which have been previously curtailed lag behind the rise of the price-level." And then:

"That result has in the past imposed upon those who labor an unfair burden; has prevented their just and equitable share in the profits of industry, and has limited the purchasing power of the overwhelming majority of our population.

"I, therefore, ask you, who represent, in all probability, the majority of the employers of the nation, to refrain from further reduction in the wages of your employees, and I ask you also to increase your wage scales in conformity with, and simultaneous with, the rise of the level of commodity prices in so far as this lies within your power.

"It is a simple fact that the average of the wage scale of the nation has gone down during the last four years more rapidly than the cost of living. It is essential, as a matter of national justice, that the wage scale should be brought back to meet the cost of living, and that this process should begin now and not later."

"BRINGING order out of chaos" is the burden of his second request. Referring to the degeneration of our industrial system, to the existence of "unfair methods of competition, of cut-throat prices and of general chaos," he says that the restoration of order "depends upon your willingness to cooperate with one another to this end and also upon your willingness to cooperate with your Government."

Then the suggestion of "the big stick."

"In almost every industry an overwhelming majority of the units of the industry are wholly willing to work together to prevent overproduction, to prevent unfair wages, to eliminate improper working conditions. In the past, success in attaining these objectives has been prevented by a small minority of units in many industries.

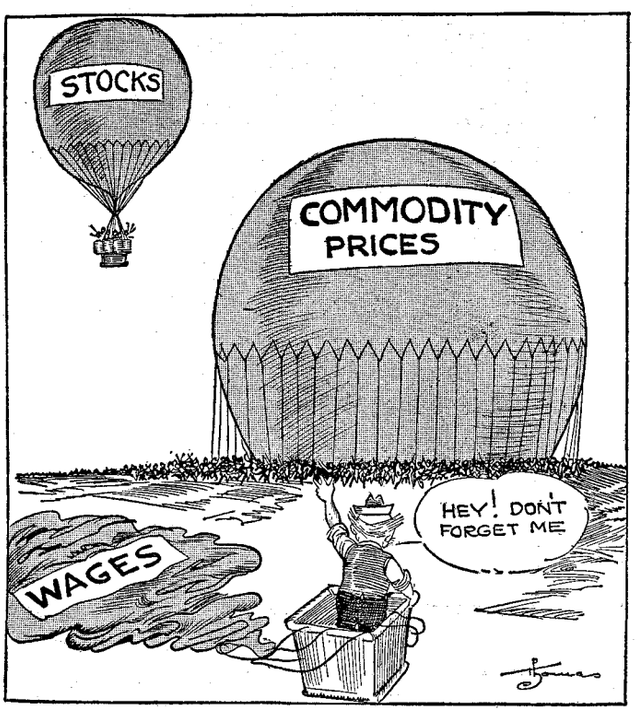
"I can assure you that you will have the cooperation of your Government in bringing these minorities to understand that their unfair practises are contrary to a sound public policy."

In his third request, Mr. Roosevelt asks for national team-work:

"It is ultimately of little avail to any of you to be temporarily prosperous while others are permanently deprest. I ask that you translate your welfare into the welfare of the whole, that you view recovery in terms of the nation, rather than in terms of a particular industry, that you have the vision to lay aside special and selfish interests, to think of and act for a well-rounded national recovery.

"May I take this opportunity to express my special appreciation of the fine cooperation which I have had from your president, Mr. Harriman, and from his associates. He has felt free to call on me and I have felt free to call on him. In that spirit the nation is working itself out of its troubles. In that spirit we shall succeed."

All this the President said in less than ten minutes, and the uproar of applause at the end showed what the business leaders thought about it. Only a few hours before they had heard their



Inflation

—Thomas in the Detroit "News."

Chamber President, Henry I. Harriman, sound the notes of optimism for the future and praise for the Roosevelt Administration. He said:

"Never in the history of the nation has an Administration more courageously and fairly attempted to deal with so many and such far-reaching problems. Undoubtedly mistakes will be made. Undoubtedly we shall learn by experiment. What we do is not irrevocable.

"We can not afford not to try for fear that we shall make a misstep, and not strike out because the road to recovery is not clearly marked.

"We may court danger by attempting remedies, but we shall surely invite disaster by doing nothing at all."

THE applause that went up in the Washington Auditorium, where the President spoke, is echoed across the country.

"President Roosevelt aimed directly at the heart of the depression," says the Dayton (Ohio) *Journal*, a Republican paper.

"Specifically and in plain and simple language, he calls upon the nation for whole-hearted team-work."

"It is immensely reassuring" to the New York *Evening Post* "to know that the President has his face set against letting commodities run wildly away from wages.

"Business should back him as far as possible in this sound policy. It means that he is trying to climb toward recovery without letting one foot get so far ahead of the other that a disastrous slipback shall become inevitable."

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To Weld the Railroads Together

"THERE IS THE GOOD-BY KISS to the principle of competition in transportation," declares the Wichita *Eagle*, while the Albany *Evening News* exclaims "Superregulation!" as they read the provisions of President Roosevelt's emergency railroad bill, providing for three big railway systems—Eastern, Western, and Southern—instead of many competing lines. And, going a step farther, the Federal coordinator provided for in the bill would tend in the direction of welding all our rail transportation into one unified system.

The railroad measure, which would remain in effect for one year, altho susceptible to extension by Presidential proclamation, and probably to be replaced by more permanent legislation, was easily predictable, many observers agree, from the President's campaign speeches, particularly that in Salt Lake City.

Some of the features of the President's message recommending the bill are summarized thus in the New York *Times*:

"The 'recapture' provision of the Transportation Act of 1920—whereby half of a railway's earnings in excess of 6 per cent. on property valuation shall be sequestrated into a 'general railway fund' for disposal by the Government—should be repealed. It is 'unworkable and impracticable.' Second, railway holding companies should be placed as definitely as railways under the Interstate Commission's regulation. Third, a 'Federal coordinator of transportation' should be created, whose duty it should be to 'encourage, promote or require action' with a view to preventing waste, avoiding needless duplication of service, and encouraging financial reorganization."

AND from another discussion of the act in the same newspaper we borrow these additional details:

"The bill sets aside the application of the antitrust laws and all the Federal and State statutes which would operate to prevent accomplishment of its purposes.

"The railroads are divided into Eastern, Southern, and Western groups, with a coordinating committee of five members selected by the railroads for each region.

"Where agreements on pooling were not voluntary, the committees would recommend to the Federal coordinator orders requiring compliance by the roads. Appeals to the Interstate Commerce Commission against such orders are provided for.

"The rights of collective bargaining are preserved for the labor unions, and the bill would not modify contracts entered into under the railway labor act."

Mr. Roosevelt's drastic plan has been received with a considerable degree of approval; and in many quarters where out and out approbation is not indicated, there is at least a disposition to give the proposal a fair trial. The Albany *Evening News* probably speaks for a large number of leading journals when it declares:

"There is no doubt that drastic steps are necessary. Those who favor the individualistic theory never had much of a leg to stand on with the railroads at any time, but they have less at present. The suggestion that the roads be operated without the normal restrictions of antitrust laws and the control of the Interstate Commerce Commission is probably as wise a one as could be for the period of the emergency. A Federal coordinator, with wide powers subject to reviews, in case of protest through the I. C. C., should be able to offset many of those influences which have brought about the muddle."

Not, of course, that there is no opposition. Railway labor, for example, inclines to skepticism of the measure. "We see no justification," say union representatives, "for drastic reduction of essential transportation service in order that unearned interest may be paid on idle capital." At the same time, reports a Washington correspondent of the New York *Herald Tribune*, "Senators prominent on the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee said the bill faced a hard fight unless the employees are satisfied. Labor will insist on being represented on the regional coordinating committees." The Baltimore *Evening Sun*, however, points out what it considers a fallacy in the argument that labor is to be sacrificed to "unearned interest on idle capital." We read:

"That argument would be one worth making if it accurately described the intent of the bill. But it doesn't. One of the principal duties of the railway coordinator will be to prevent the making of non-essential loans to railroads and he will be required to exercise his broad powers to force the rails to squeeze much of the water out of their capitalization."

More doubt is exprest thus in the Los Angeles *Times*:

"A coordinator will need the wisdom of Solomon, the integrity of an archangel, the strategy of a Napoleon, and the backbone of a Lincoln. Where such an individual is to be found is not known.

"The plan is reminiscent of the war-time railroad administration, which is not exactly a recommendation.

"The plan to suspend the Sherman and Clayton acts seems peculiar, if it is expected these will go back into full effect after the year is over. There will be problems of unscrambling eggs that will tax the ingenuity of the courts for years to come."

Half a Billion More for Relief

ALL READY TO SERVE that $500,000,000 relief pie to the States.

And the serving comes none too soon, for some of them have been scraping along on scant funds in caring for their destitute.

What we see now is "a radical change in the policy of Federal relief undertaking," says the Philadelphia *Evening Bulletin*. These funds, it explains, will be handed out as "definite grants," whereas "up to the present all money advanced from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to the States for relief service has been in the character of a loan."

This feature of the Wagner-Costigan bill caused a flare-up in the Senate early in the debate. But when it came to a showdown, the measure slid through without difficulty.

A few minor changes had been made in the bill as passed by the House, but no trouble was anticipated in ironing these out, and the bill is expected to become a law any day now. As the correspondent of the New York *Herald Tribune* explains:

"The bill provides that out of the total $250,000,000 shall be allocated to the States, Territories, and the District of Columbia in proportion to the amounts expended by them for relief.

"The Federal proportion is one-third of the expenditures for relief in the last three months.

"The remaining $250,000,000 would be granted to the States, Territories, and District of Columbia on a showing that relief funds from sources other than the Federal Government are insufficient."

WHILE many editors do not like this bill, few are inclined to attack it. They take the attitude of the Rochester *Democrat and Chronicle*, which says that "when wide-spread need exists, it is no time to haggle about the details of providing it. If this need were less acute," it adds, "the bill would likely have encountered more stubborn opposition, for many objections may be made to it." And it adds:

"One may hope with the Administration that the entire sum will not be needed, but the way in which previous appropriations for relief have melted away does not encourage too sanguine a view in that particular."

Pointing out that the Government "can get the money only by borrowing, and that it can pay back the loans only by taxing the people," the Indianapolis *News* reminds us that "under the Federal grant plan, populous and wealthy centers will share their resources with communities unable to finance relief." And we read on: "The tax will fall most heavily on them. This entails sacrifice, but the emergency, as the President maintains, calls for a national sacrifice."

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McKee Chooses Not to Run

NEW YORK CITY'S political jig-saw puzzle has been scrambled again.

When completed it will be a picture of the city's next mayor, to be elected in the fall.

Many believed it would reveal the bulldog features of smiling, scholarly Joseph V. McKee, President of the Board of Aldermen, who served as acting mayor after the resignation of James J. Walker last year. In the November election won by Mayor O'Brien, Mr. McKee received a write-in vote of more than 250,000.

But it was Mr. McKee himself who scrambled the pieces; and now the puzzle may turn out to be a picture of Mayor O'Brien, or any one of several fusion candidates. Mr. McKee resigns from the Board of Aldermen to become President of the Title Guarantee and Trust Company, stating:

Courtesy New York *Evening Post*

Not the Next Mayor

Joseph V. McKee dashes hopes of anti-Tammany forces in New York's coming city campaign by announcing his "complete elimination" from politics.

"This step marks the complete elimination of myself from politics and governmental office.

"Leadership in politics under our party system is hemmed in by party limitations. I have no quarrel with this. I have always believed in and stood by the party system. But I believe, at the same time, that I, as I am, can be of greater use to the community now as a disinterested citizen, in fighting for what I believe to be right, outside of any governmental job."

So the confused New York *mayoralty situation* is worse confounded. In particular, the fusion forces (made up largely of Republicans and anti-Tammany Democrats) are bewildered. Fusionists had regarded Mr. McKee as the candidate most likely to defeat Tammany. This despite the fact that he is regarded as a regular Democrat—altho unpopular, because of his independence, with the Hall—and might have refused to run without organization support.

One popular theory about this withdrawal is that Mr. McKee got out of the way of the frequently predicted candidacy of ex-Governor Smith. But the latter's friends deny emphatically that he would consider running for mayor.

Mr. McKee's resignation has been hailed with regret, disapproval, and (in some circles) relief. As the New York *Sun* phrases it:

"Tammany throws roses at the departing figure and grins broadly because he is out of its way. Mr. Blanshard of the City Affairs Committee moans over Mr. McKee's 'lack of fighting courage.' This is after the manner of the pugilist's manager, urging his man on with 'He can't hurt us!' Certainly there is no reason why Mr. McKee should not pattern his own career."

But *The Evening Post* refuses to have it so, declaring:

"He seems to us to have 'run out on us.' Of course, as the phrase goes, it is a free country and a man can direct his own career. Yet every man has his responsibilities and Joseph McKee had his. He owed something to the decent sentiment of the town, exprest toward him in countless ways. Above all, he owed the most devoted duty to saving from its present wasteful corruption the great city whose servant he had been."

Gold Default and Defiance

WHO'S HOARDING NOW?

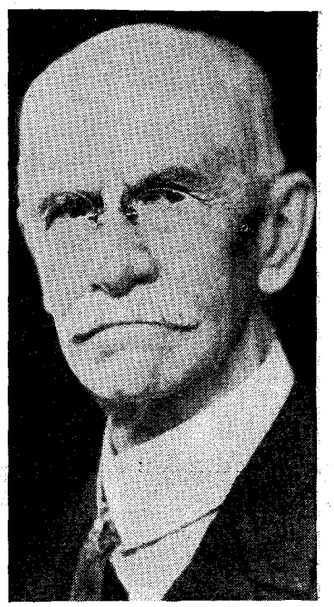
The May 1 dead line for the return of gold to the banks has passed, and defiant holders of some $700,000,000 of the metal are risking fine and imprisonment.

And just as this dead line is passed, the Government bans the export of gold to pay the interest on United States bonds (with a gold payment clause) and other of our securities held abroad.

Does the Government (a good many observers are asking) intend to do all the hoarding done in this country?

Harsh words are being directed against Washington for both phases of its gold policy. "Bluff!" exclaim those opposing the President's anti-hoarding decree. "Default!" cry both domestic and foreign critics of the ban on gold exports for interest payments.

Apropos of hoarding, Senator Borah, according to Universal Service, told his colleagues, "As far as I'm concerned, if I had $5,000 in gold, I'd tell the Government to go to hell!" In the transcript of his speech, this strong statement was somewhat moderated. Certain lawyers have advised hoarding clients to hold onto their gold, and have so notified the Treasury Department.



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Ready for Jail

Ex-Senator Thomas of Colorado, *confessed* "hoarder" of $120 in gold, acquired, he says, "in order to qualify myself for the penitentiary."

EIGHTY-FOUR-YEAR-OLD ex-Senator Thomas of Colorado, who admits that he is "hoarding" $120 in gold ($100 being the limit), offered himself as a test case, but will be ignored, we read, in favor of more flagrant violators.

As for the probably more serious international aspects of the anti-export order, great indignation exists in Paris and London, particularly the latter city, where *The Financial News* brands our action "An Egregious Default," and *The Financial Times* says, somewhat ominously, of the war debt:

"If British holders of American bonds are not to receive the payments due them from their American debtors, it would obviously be unreasonable to expect this country to make payment in the full gold value, as in December last."

In this country the New York *Times* observes sorrowfully:

"Maintaining good faith with all nations has been so fixt a principle for this country since the days of Washington that even a threatened departure from it touches a sensitive nerve."

This paper also reminds us that Britain and France, in similar circumstances, kept up payment of interest in gold abroad.

What the courts may decide about this new policy will be awaited with interest. The Springfield *Republican* discusses a case of the sort tried in England:

"The chancery division of the English court of appeals has declared invalid a clause in some bonds of exactly the same scope and tenor as the gold clause in American bonds. The judicial view was that no contract could discriminate against non-gold legal tender; and that what the clause really called for was payment in money, not payment in the commodity gold."

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Behind the Iowa Farm Riots

IT IS STARTLING ENOUGH when the plowman leaves his plow, puts on a mask and joins a mob.

But when the mob invades a court-room, drags the judge from the bench, maltreats and threatens to lynch him unless he promises to sign no more farm-mortgage foreclosures—then the nation is shocked indeed.

"That such an incident could obtain in a highly civilized community in a State having the lowest percentage of illiteracy in America is difficult of belief," as the Wichita *Beacon*, in another farm State, points out.

"One can not but wonder," says the Savannah *News*, "in how many other cities and counties there are dynamite bombs of a similar character that may explode unless the efforts at Washington put forward for relief quickly come into effect."

The same question worries other editors. The action of the mob at Le Mars, Iowa, that abducted District Judge Charles C. Bradley, slapped him, pelted him with dirt and grease, put a rope around his neck, and stript off his trousers, all in a vain effort to force him to promise not to sign foreclosures, "can not be easily defended, but it ought to be understood if the present economic crisis is to be successfully overcome."

So says the Hartford *Courant*, speaking for a number of papers. As *The Courant* analyzes the situation:

"The farmers of Iowa are not anarchists by nature. On the contrary, in normal circumstances they are perhaps the most conservative, the most orthodox, the most peaceable individuals in the nation.

"When they act as they have recently, the conclusion is unavoidable that they have been placed in a position so desperate as to nullify all their instincts and all their traditions.

"The fact is ominous, for it means that a situation has arisen that demands extraordinary consideration. The situation is not simply a problem in economics. It also is a problem in maintaining social order."

Keystone

He Defied the Mob

Judge Charles C. Bradley, tho dragged from his court and threatened with lynching, refused to promise not to sign any more foreclosures.

AND then *The Courant* makes the point that "in all probability, the explanation for many of the extraordinary measures advocated by the Administration is to be found in the unprecedented situation that confronts it in the Middle West and elsewhere—

"When the farmers of Iowa are willing to go to such extremes as at Le Mars, the Administration may be excused much haste and some experimentation in its effort to remove the causes of discontent that expresses itself in open contempt for the law."

Along the same line, the Cleveland *Plain Dealer* thinks we should explore "the economic maladjustment behind this social explosion."

Official Iowa has no sympathy with such outbreaks. Governor Herring made this plain when immediately after the Bradley abduction, he declared martial law in Plymouth County and sent troops to run down members of the mob and supervise farm sales.

And Iowa papers are as vigorous as those outside the State in their condemnation of the mob's action.

"This is a disgrace to the State of Iowa," says the Des Moines *Tribune*. "It is an outrage against the great multitude of law-abiding farmers. It can not be condoned in any sense or in any degree." And it concludes:

"The same agricultural population of Iowa must not—MUST not—allow its great cause to be swallowed up in another issue to which there can be only one answer—the issue as to whether the Government of America still lives."

The Rhode Island Splash

RHODE ISLAND VOTES FOR SALOONS.

That was the verdict of 150,244 voters out of 171,118 in the election on May 1 of delegates to the State convention authorized to act on the Twenty-first Amendment, repealing the Eighteenth.

The 7 to 1 wet victory surprized even the most ardent repealists who, just before the election, feared that they were in for a very close vote, if not defeat. This despite the fact that Rhode Island is one of the two States (Connecticut being the other) that never ratified Prohibition.

Early in April Rhode Island passed legislation regulating the sale of 3.2 per cent. beer, and hard liquor, too, when and if the dry law is repealed. The act "provided for the return of open saloons," says the Providence correspondent of the New York *Herald Tribune*. The number of saloons was restricted to one for each 1,000 of population, and in some places an even smaller ratio is allowed, one to 2,000 or one to 3,000. This was the issue on which the repeal convention campaign was waged. Dry leaders campaigned with vigor and some prospect of success, declaring that the old-fashioned saloon with its evils was in the offing. Wets, as we shall see, charged the drys with misrepresentation on this score.

But repeal triumphed, with a decisiveness that surprized even its most confident adherents—150,244 votes against 20,874, a percentage of 87.8.

THUS, it seems, Rhode Island is wetter than ever before. In the DIGEST Prohibition poll of 1932 the percentage of wetness in the State was 84.3. And this year's 7 to 1 wet ratio is twice that of the State referendum of 1930.

"Few States may show as large a wet proportion as our own," says the Providence *News-Tribune* editorially, continuing:

"But the flowing tide of opinion makes it certain there will be other victories which will be just as impressive when evaluated as indicators of how public opinion stands in the light of other days.

"Never have the dry leaders made a more typical, a more determined, a more bitter, or a better organized fight than they did in Rhode Island. They misrepresented the new liquor law as allowing the return of the old saloon with the evils for which it was condemned; they published these misrepresentations not only in this State; they spread them abroad throughout the country by means of propaganda disguised as news dispatches. The people of the State were, however, not to be fooled."

ELSEWHERE, however, there is a disposition to caution, and wets are warned against overconfidence in the repeal battle. Turning to comment in the New York *American* on the Rhode Island vote, we read:

"The friends of temperance and of law and order must not let themselves be deceived by easy victories.

"The real campaign has not even commenced.

"Until thirty-six States have acted affirmatively the Eighteenth Amendment must remain in the Constitution, and the militant drys have declared their strategy accordingly. Abandoning, for the time being, the territory that they can not hope to hold, their entire strength is being concentrated in doubtful States, in order to make thirteen of these States refuse to ratify.

"Consequently the repeal battle must be won or lost in those States, of the dry leaders' own choosing."

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TOPICS IN BRIEF

CHINA seems to be acquiring a japanned finish.—*Arkansas Gazette.*

IN that new deal, nearly everybody wants the jack.—*Greensboro (Ga.) Herald-Journal.*

THIS wrestle with present conditions is a sort of cash-as-cash-can affair.—*West (Texas) News.*

ANOTHER thing to guard against is an inflated idea of what inflation will do for us.—*Greenville Piedmont.*

THE musical Secretary of the Treasury promises to be free with his notes.—*Thief River Falls (Minn.) Times.*

As we understand it, the giant dirigible is a perfect war-machine if it can last until the war starts.—*Macon Telegraph.*

THE prices of the latest millinery models merely show how money has a way of going to some people's heads.—*Punch (London).*

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Sure You've Got a Good Hold on That Rope?

—Hanny in the Philadelphia "Inquirer."

THERE is wide-spread complaint that the current beer is far below the legal alcoholic limit. Public officials should compel the brewers to come as near as possible to violating the law.—*The New Yorker.*

STEAMSHIPS, stabilized, lose their roll, whereas business, done the same way, gets its back.—*Arkansas Gazette.*

NOW that Hitler has set up a new religion the Nazis saints will know what kind of mustache is expected of them.—*Dallas News.*

THE Versailles Treaty didn't do everything wrong. Suppose Germany had been given a mandate over Palestine.—*Louisville Times.*

THE old frigate *Constitution* seems to be in much better shape than the thing it was named after.—*American Lumberman (Chicago).*

SENATOR THOMAS shouts for transference of money from the creditor to the debtor class, but France beat him to it.—*Lynchburg News.*

THE Nazis are said to be planning a wholly Teutonic form of art—from which, of course, all mosaics will be excluded.—*Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.*

A PSYCHOLOGIST states that a large percentage of those who disappear do so because they feel that they are not wanted. And we add that a lot of them do a fade-away because they know they are wanted.—*Thomaston Times.*

WITH the sad experience we have had with dirigibles, we should be very careful about how we inflate the currency.—*Brunswick Pilot.*

A DIVORCE due to cross-word puzzles has been granted in America. The report does not say who was granted the custody of the dictionary.—*Punch (London).*

TWO Japanese students at a California ball game stood up when the band played, "How Dry I Am." They thought it was the American national anthem.—*Edinburgh (Texas) Valley Review.*

A VICE-PRESIDENT, says a veteran Washington correspondent, ought to have a well-developed sense of humor. Ah, yes. What we need, then, is a bit of a wag for the tail of the ticket.—*Boston Herald.*

LET's see, wasn't the *Akron* also inflated?—*American Lumberman (Chicago).*

THE good new days will be with us when we are relieved of relief.—*Arkansas Gazette.*

IF, as Marconi says, the next war is fought with radio, we can all dial for our country.—*Brunswick Pilot.*

ANY American can now tell you the best way to invest money. It's the way he didn't.—*Publishers Syndicate.*

IT probably is a capital crime in Berlin for Jewish boys to have German measles.—*New York Herald Tribune.*

PROBABLY Japan's final denial of any intention to invade China will be issued from Canton.—*Rochester Democrat & Chronicle.*

MONEY inflation will give added emphasis to the slogan on the dollar, "In God We Trust."—*Thief River Falls (Minn.) Times.*

SOMEBODY ought to clarify the situation before it is too late. If they put the missus on the five-day week, will bigamy still be a crime?—*Boston Herald.*

THE President says this is war, but how can it be when there is no chance for a patriot to get rich.—*Lancaster New Era.*

ENTHUSIASM would be more general if it were inflation of salaries and wages they are talking about.—*Greenville Piedmont.*

WE are afraid of this reforestation idea. Think of the poison-ivy pensions future generations may have to pay.—*Brunswick Pilot.*

HITLER got car-loads of presents on his forty-fourth birthday, but what he gets on his forty-fifth will be a better test.—*Washington Post.*

CARRIED into court on a stretcher, that New York banker must have resembled a composite picture of many depositors.—*Toledo Blade.*

MANY false notions, remarks a widely known economist, are being given currency. Gosh, we wish we could get to be a false notion.—*Boston Herald.*

MORE millions are to be loaned out by the Government upon agricultural property. Our rulers in their infinite wisdom have decided that what the farmer needs is another mortgage.—*Detroit News.*

A Picture of Europeans Refusing an American Dollar

—Thomas in the Detroit "News."

IT must be terrible on some of our big Senators to be changed so completely from Republicans to Republicants.—*Brunswick Pilot.*

"FREQUENT water-drinking," says Gladys Glad, "prevents you from becoming stiff in the joints." Yes, but some joints don't serve water.—*Edinburgh (Texas) Valley Review.*

BY sliding off the gold standard, the United States gets itself in a position to look the world in the face and tell it to go to hell. Our money is as bad as anybody's.—*The New Yorker.*

IT is not true that Henry Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture, is a relative of the late Edgar Wallace, mystery writer. That story was started by some one who had read the farm-relief bill.—*Dunbar's Weekly (Phœnix).*

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FOREIGN COMMENT

The Bewildering Magic of Führer Hitler

MEET FÜHRER HITLER OF GERMANY

No more of the "handsome Adolf," and no more jokes about what the other Adolf must look like if he is the handsome one

Supreme master of Germany, the Dictator-Chancellor is now called the Führer, or leader, just as the Italians speak of Mussolini as Il Duce.

So rises to the skies of European politics the former Austrian house-painter, who, a couple of years ago, was known as "the man without a country" because he lost his Austrian citizenship by valorous service during the World War under the German flag

His control is complete, even antagonistic critics concede.

European

When the Führer Was Forty-four

Storm troops coming out of Berlin's Protestant Cathedral after a church celebration of Chancellor Hitler's birthday, April 20, 1933.

President von Hindenburg becomes as mute as the famous gigantic wooden effigy of him erected by an admiring nation for his war service.

Hitler has muffled also the Reichstag, put under way the machinery to establish Hitlerite supremacy over the Protestant Church in Germany, and has won allegiance of the Steel Helmet League, monarchist veterans' organization.

THE conversion of the Steel Helmets to Hitlerism is said to put him in command of two strongly disciplined private armies, numbering together 1,600,000. In comparison with this huge force, the Reichswehr—the regular German Army permitted by the Versailles Treaty—with its 100,000 troops, is described by one Berlin correspondent as "a puny band."

What is more, this development, it is claimed, virtually destroys the hopes of the Hohenzollerns and Royalists for a restoration of the monarchy in the near future.

But the superclimax of Hitler's ascendency crashed on May 2, when in one hour of nation-wide raids police and their Nazi Storm Troop auxiliaries seized Germany's Socialist Labor Unions, long the most powerful labor organizations in the world.

Leaders of 5,500,000 working men, Berlin press cables report, were arrested between ten and eleven o'clock on the morning of that day, and hundreds of union headquarters throughout the Reich were occupied by Nazi Storm Troops working under the direction of Dr. Ley, National Socialist Chairman of the "Committee for the Protection of German Labor."

This move puts into practise with astonishing suddenness Chancellor Hitler's promise in his May Day oration of the day before that the democratic principle would be removed from the field of industrial relations. As a Berlin correspondent of the New York *Evening Post* tells the story—

"Dr. Ley announced this morning that the National Socialists have no intention of destroying the unions, but simply intend to replace the old leaders elected by the union membership with leaders designated from the Nazi ranks, who will now represent the rights of Labor in the State.

"Mussolini took two years to destroy the Labor unions and replace them with Fascist organizations under his control. Adolf Hitler accomplished the same task in little more than three months, altho the German unions possest far greater influence than the Italian groups had had.

"Practically speaking, what has happened is that the relatively weak National Socialist party has been presented with the technical organization and property of the great Socialist unions.

"Altho the Socialist leaders have been imprisoned, the office staffs of union bureaus, banks, insurance companies, and cooperatives have been directed to go on with their normal duties as if nothing had happened."

IN his May Day speech before a throng estimated at 1,500,000 persons at the Tempelhof Flying Field—the largest open-air audience ever assembled in Germany—and to a radio audience of perhaps 50,000,000, Führer Hitler declared:

"It is therefore our irrevocable determination, that every single German, no matter who he is, whether high born and rich or poor, whether the son of a savant or the son of a factory worker, shall at least once in his life do manual labor, in order that he may learn that he can command more easily once he has himself learned to obey."

The "irrevocable determination" of the Nazis to introduce compulsory labor service, as John Elliott notes in a Berlin copyright cable to the New York *Herald Tribune*, is designed not only to reduce unemployment, but to end once and for all the social stigma involved in manual labor, and this informant adds:

"This stigma, Chancellor Hitler hinted, was at the root of the class differences exploited by Communists in the past to divide and so to weaken the German nation.

"The Nazi chieftain, on this 'Day of National Labor,' promised the German working man to destroy the middle-class prejudice against handworkers, just as the prejudice against the soldier had been removed in the past by the introduction of universal compulsory military training."

Altho the staging of the May Day speech was magnificent, closing with an evening of unrivaled fireworks, considerable disappointment is exprest by American correspondents at Berlin and by editors outside Germany that Chancellor Hitler failed to produce his first year's program of his Four Year Plan as was previously announced.

Cables from the French press to THE LITERARY DIGEST, among them one from the semiofficial Paris *Temps*, dismisses the Hitler declaration as "empty demagoguery" and this newspaper continues:

"Hitler's social and economic program appears to be lamentably weak. It is said that despite the atmosphere of enthusiasm created by the Hitlerite May Day ceremonies, the Chancellor's speech left an impression of profound deception on those who heard it. We readily believe it."

Regarding Chancellor Hitler's compulsory labor threat, *Le*

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Temps asserts that what he is proposing is "servitude," and it adds:

"The reduction of an entire nation to a militarized proletariat is exactly the same principle that has been adopted in Moscow."

Marked distrust of the real intentions of Germany appears in the comment of other French newspapers. For instance, *L'Intransigéant* asks pointedly:

"What did they preach on the First of May? Force! What did one see in the pretended manifestations of workmen?—Nothing but masses of soldiers formed into regiments! We French must understand that this is not a moment to be divided; not a time for weakness."

Similar alarm is felt by the Paris *Petit Bleu*, which remarks warningly that:

"The hundred-and-one loud-speakers of the Tempelhof will be heard around the world. Who is so deaf, so pacifistic, as not to comprehend the message of Hitler? We add only that there is not one minute to lose."

THE press in England, as shown by editorials cabled to THE LITERARY DIGEST, is not so harsh as that of France, but none the less skeptical of the solidity of Hitler's statesman foundations. Thus, the London *Times* asserts:

"Hitler has proved himself once more greater as a showman than as a director of policy. There are numerous passages in his speech referring to oppression from without and the regaining of might from within—and unfortunately catchwords of this sort are more to the taste of the modern German audience than the stern program of constructive work."

But it is to the interest of all the world as well as to Germany that the Germans should prosper, thinks the London *Evening News*, tho it has to confess:

"Hitler's speech has not revealed and perhaps could not be expected to reveal in any detail the 'Four Year Plan' by which Germany is to be regenerated.

"The Nazi régime has still to get down to brass tacks. It is to the world's interest as well as Germany's that it should succeed."

IN Germany opinion disclosed in editorials cabled to THE LITERARY DIGEST seems hopeful, if tepid, about Hitler's May Day oration. Also, each newspaper seems to look at it from its own special angle. For instance, the *Vossische Zeitung* is chiefly concerned with the Hitler project for road building, and it says:

"It is to be assumed that the scheme for road building will extend over a number of years, therefore, the two great measures —reemployment and compulsory labor—at present will absorb only a part of the unemployed.

"How large this part will be depends upon the financial dimensions of the plan, which doubtless will be divulged later."

On the other hand, the *Deutsche Tageszeitung* seems to be interested mainly in the farmers, and it expresses itself as follows:

"We are glad to see that Hitler unmistakably reaffirmed the fundamental economic principle that all prosperity begins with the farmers.

"Hitler's appeal to establish not only unity in laboring groups but also unity in national spirit, which alone is able to assure Germany's liberation, doubtless will have the strongest repercussions among the German people."

But a prominent financial organ, the Berlin *Boersen Courier*, has in the forefront of its mind the necessity for a reduction of interest rate in foreign debts, and it observes:

"Hitler mapped out the foundations for the edifice of new economy. He also showed its future outlines.

"He pointed to the interdependence of foreign trade and the rate of interest. The more important foreign opinion will recognize this interdependence. Foreign creditors must lower their rate of interest."

Pearls a Livelihood of Millions

150,000 NAKED MEN diving in shark-infested waters for pearls form the nucleus of an industry upon which depends the existence of about 2,000,000 people.

The scene of this picturesque and thrilling spectacle is the Bahrein pearl banks of the Bahrein Islands, which form an archipelago in the Persian Gulf twenty miles off al Hasa on the Arabian coast. In the preparation for the spring season of pearl fishing in these islands, which are a protectorate of Great Britain, every harbor on the Arabian coast shows big high-pooped dhows, the craft of the pearl-fishing fleet, drawn up for calking and riveting.

Sails, oars and masts are repaired and the smell of fish-oil, used for seasoning the wood, is described by a Bahrein correspondent of the London *Daily Mail* as "all-pervading." He tells us further:

The Trance of the Jobless

Hitler Calls Them to Awake and Work

—"Kladderadatsch" (Berlin).

"Nearly 500,000 men are engaged yearly in the pearl-fishery. The livelihood of about 2,000,000 people depends directly or indirectly upon the prices offered by Paris and New York merchants for the pearls.

"Each dhow carries from 24 to 35 divers. They go over the side naked, with a basket slung round their necks. The sharks normally do not molest them.

"Down they go, and when their breath is exhausted they are pulled up, with their baskets full of the pearl oysters, by the rope-men, some 30 or 45 in number."

UNFORTUNATELY, according to this informant, most of the men, encumbered by old debts to the dhow-owners, make little or nothing out of their work. But it is a lucrative trade for many, and for the ruling sheiks on the coast it is said to be an important source of income. Each sheikdom sends its quota of ships, and each fleet, under an "admiral" in the biggest dhow, sets sail after a ceremony of prayer. We read then:

"The Gulf pearl markets are inconspicuous. The merchants, who look anything but wealthy, carry their pearls in little knotted pieces of rag, which they produce from the voluminous folds of their flowing garments.

"All transactions take place in little coffee-shops or in secluded rooms in the thick-walled Arab houses. These transactions run into thousands of pounds."

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Peru's Warrior President at Peace

WILL PERU FIND PEACE now that the late President Luis M. Sanchez Cerro has lost the last fight of his turbulent career by assassination?

That is the question asked by some in recalling the bright noonday of April 30, when Sanchez Cerro, forty-three-year-old Indian veteran of three revolutions, was killed in full view of a throng by a political terrorist, who was himself slain in an immediate mêlée of shooting.

Two soldiers were killed and six troopers and a civilian wounded in the firing. The assassin, Abelardo Hurtado de Mendoza, a revolutionary, was killed by guards, and an autopsy showed twenty bullet and four lance wounds.

His real name was given to the press by the Peru Ministry of the Interior as Abelardo Mendoza Leiva.

The arrest of several persons who made important confessions, according to a police statement cited in a Lima Associated Press cable, permits authorities "to state that the slayer of President Sanchez Cerro acted in accordance with a terrorist plan," the key to which lies in the admission of one of the prisoners who was seized while he was fleeing from the scene of the killing with a pistol in his hand.

Wide World

Of No Political Party

Is Peru's new President, Gen. Oscar P. Benavides, whose program is "harmony."

A curious epitaphic note about the late President is that he left only a small estate, consisting of about thirty dollars in cash, three or four low-priced jewels, and two decorations. His friends say also he had no bank account.

Death came to Cerro as he was motoring away from the Santa Beatriz race-track after reviewing 20,000 men recruited for the Army as a result of Peru's undeclared war with Colombia for possession of the Leticia territory on the upper Amazon River.

IMMEDIATELY on learning of Cerro's death at the Lima Italian Hospital a few minutes after he reached there, the Peruvian Cabinet, United Press dispatches inform us, took over executive powers, declared martial law, and summoned Congress.

Gen. Oscar P. Benavides, who had lately returned from his post as Peruvian Minister to London, to become Peru's chief of the nation's land, sea, and air forces, was quickly elected to fill out the three and one-half years remaining of Sanchez Cerro's five-year Presidential term. General Benavides, who is described as a less bellicose person than his predecessor, altho he has seen his share of turmoil, has lived most of the time in Europe since a former brief term as President. Now, on reelection by an overwhelming majority of the Congress, in taking the oath before Speaker Clemente Revilla, President Benavides said:

"From the bottom of my soul I condemn to-day's assassination. The country has been deprived of one of its most prominent men.

"I do not belong to any political party. My program will be to establish harmony among Peruvians, and I will endeavor to solve our international problems with patriotism."

The assassination of Sanchez Cerro and the election of General Benavides as successor, according to Bogota, Colombia, United Press cables, is not expected greatly to affect the dispute between Colombia and Peru over possession of the Amazon River port of Leticia, especially because General Benavides had returned from London for the express purpose of assisting Peru in the unofficial war with Colombia. On the other hand, there are optimists at Bogota, as revealed in editorials cabled to THE LITERARY DIGEST from that city. For instance, *El Tiempo* has this to say:

"President Benavides will be able to bring about retirement from Leticia, and consequent peace, because the Peruvian people desire it. Benavides has the decision in his hands."

RECALLING the career of General Benavides, who in 1912 commanded Peruvian forces which defeated Colombian troops in a border conflict, *El Tiempo* goes on to say:

"General Benavides as a commander fought the Colombian garrison on the Caqueta; he lived a long time in Loreto Province; he knows the problems of eastern Peru, and perhaps as a youth he helped to create them and exalt regional feeling against us.

"But he was exiled many years in Europe, where recently he was a diplomat. General Benavides has arrived at maturity, and is incomparably less arbitrary and more deliberate than his mentally-sick predecessor."

Keystone

An Estate of Thirty Dollars

Is left by Peru's martyred President, Luis M. Sanchez Cerro.

Col. Sanchez Cerro's assassin, Hurtado de Mendoza, was a thirty-five-year-old member of the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance, generally known as the Apra, against which Sanchez Cerro had exercised the severest repressive measures. *El Tiempo* publishes statistics of political shootings in the fifteen months of the Sanchez Cerro régime, and claims that, not including the executions of the Cajamarca revolters, the total is seventy-three, compared with fifty-three political executions carried out by nine governments. So *El Tiempo* concludes that the shots that killed the late President were not fired as any one's revenge, but were an active defense by the people and fulfilment of a sentence by them.

A violent contrast of opinion appears in cables to THE LITERARY DIGEST from the press of Peru. Thus *La Cronica* remarks rather heartlessly that Sanchez Cerro is largely himself to blame for his untimely end, and it holds:

"Nobody will be able to find human arguments to justify the tragic end of President Sanchez Cerro's personal régime, because nobody can justify the crime. The President was the victim of his own actions. He opened the doors to violence, and he was answered with violence."

But *El Comercio*, an ardent admirer of the murdered President, calls him the victim of "irreligious men without a fatherland," and it avers:

"He was the standard-bearer of our nationality in the bloody fight which pernicious elements—the Apristas—are making internally against the country."

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What the Russian Artist Paints

PROLETARIAN ART has come into its own in Soviet Russia.

Cubism, futurism, expressionism, suprematism, and other isms taken over from the commercial salons of Paris and Berlin, "and in no way representing the long-awaited proletarian art," have been cast down.

Lenin himself gave the cue when he wrote: "Why worship the new as a god to be obliged just because it is 'new'? That is nonsense, sheer nonsense. I am unable to consider the works of expressionism, futurism, cubism, and other isms as the highest expressions of artistic genius. I do not understand them. They give me no pleasure."

Such outspokenness from their later deified leader seems to have had its effect.

A great exhibition has been held at the Leningrad Russian Museum, where the work of three hundred and fifty artists, numbering 3,000 pieces, was shown.

Most of the artists represented did not begin their activities until after the revolution, we are told by Igor Grabar, Director of the Tretiakov Gallery, Moscow, in the *Soviet Union Review* (Washington), and, says the writer:

"The exhibition breathes freshness and courage, giving evidence of the fact that the Soviet artist believes in himself and in his work. Since the exhibit is to a certain extent retrospective, it is not difficult to trace in it the evolution of separate artists, and, at the same time, of Soviet production as a whole."

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Happy Russian Miners

As seen by the Soviet painter Zhukov.

THE first room is said to contain portraits of Lenin, "pictures portraying episodes from Lenin's life and activities and paintings of some of the new construction projects begun while he was still alive." Then come rooms showing what remain of European influences, denominated "the Left." While not entirely successful in repudiating Western influences, yet the artists' "searchings were directed toward sharpness of perception, unusualness of design, simplicity of form, technique of painting. Subject matter gave way to Soviet themes."

Taking a paragraph at random which mentions artists, tho with names unfamiliar to Western ears, one sees the direction of the painting's subject matter.

"Unique figures are Adlivankin and Deinek. The first has worked out a simple style of painting of individual character, well suited to his every-day themes. Following his excellent small picture of 1922, 'Philistines' Portrait,' depicting a group of petty bourgeois citizens posing for a photographer, Adlivankin painted his 'Voting the Kulaks out of the Kolhoz' in 1930, and after that two companion pieces—'The Heroes' and 'Our Heroes.' In the first a troop commander distributes decorations to his soldiers in the presence of some important silk-hatted gentlemen, in the second a group of shock troop workers are receiving awards for their work in Socialist construction.

"Of all the present Soviet artists Deinek is one of the most promising in the field of fresco. He is represented at the exhibition by his well-known picture 'The Defense of Petrograd' (1927), 'Skiers' (1931), 'Unemployment in the West' (1932), and the complicated composition, 'Kto-Kovo?' (1932).

"Each new picture by Deinek represents a new victory, a step forward in his consistent progress. In his last picture he has resourcefully combined the manner of ancient miniature painting and the Russian school, uniting in one composition various events which developed simultaneously, illustrating the history of Soviet successes, first in the struggle with intervention and class enemies and then in building the new life.

"Sergey Gerasimov, Chernyshev, and Zephirov are all unquestionably artists of distinction and originality. They are all quite different. Gerasimov inclines to wide spaces, to peasant life. His individual peasants are not simply portraits of muzhiks, friends, neighbors, but complex characters, with acutely observed class psychology—whole novels in color and form. Zephirov is a quiet, intimate portrayer of home life, his own environment, his own world. Chernyshev, who has mastered the art of fresco as perhaps none of our other painters have, still limits himself, however, to fine, but small pictures of young people of whom he has great understanding."

A WESTERN view of an exhibition devoted to the glorification of a political idea is exprest by the Boston *Transcript:*

"As the eye runs down the list of titles in the exhibition catalog it lights upon such as 'The Revolt of the French Sailors,' 'The Defense of Petrograd,' 'Unemployment in the West,' 'People in Rags,' 'Hero of Labor,' 'Last Days of the Paris Commune,' 'The Death of a Commissar,' 'Sorting Cotton,' and the like. There are some portraits, some landscapes, but the whole atmosphere of the exhibition is political and revolutionary—five-year-plannish. Lebdenev, for example—'His scenes from the life of Leningrad during the Nep period have a deep social content.'

"Frankly, most of us have no desire to visit an exhibition of paintings to experience 'a deep social content,' and we should think that the most ardent revolutionist in Russia would prefer some distraction in his poetry and music and art to this everlasting harping on the one string of proletarian propaganda. The writer of the article himself, we suspect, is not altogether won over to the new Soviet art, for he recalls the words of Lenin: 'We are much too much iconoclasts in painting. We must retain the beautiful, take it as an example, hold on to it, even tho it is old.'"

Charmion von Wiegand, newspaper correspondent, recently returned to America after several years in Soviet Russia, writes in the New York *American:*

"A blond, bearded peasant in high boots and a linen blouse

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stood in front of the green-faced lady of Matisse, hanging in one of the elegant drawing-rooms of the former mansion of the merchant prince Morosov in Moscow, and scowled. His nostrils quivered with indignation at this outrageous and weird icon offered to view by the Soviet Government. He was one of a collective group of farm workers on a tour. They were being shown through the Museum of Western Art, which contains one of the finest modern collections of paintings in the world.

"A week before, in Rostov-on-Don, I had visited the new enormous agricultural machinery plant of Selmashstroy. There in one of the busiest and noisiest of the machine shops, an artist had set up his easel and was at work on a large canvas depicting proletarian workers running hundreds of gleaming machines.

"Art to-day in the Soviet Union has been turned topsyturvy. It took not only a revolution but the collective farm movement to detach that Russian peasant from his village and bring him to the city and the museum.

"It took a Five-Year Plan to remove a typical pre-revolutionary Russian artist from the close air of the studio, where remote and mystic fantasies were created, to a great industrial center, there to depict the new life of men and machines.

"A connoisseur of modernist art would laugh at the peasant's ignorance, and a Parisian painter might turn up his nose at the literal realism of the Russian artist. Yet these two incidents illustrate a tremendous change."

Shakespeare Beats the Depression

SHAKESPEARE HAS SURVIVED all the depression effects suffered by the theater in New York, and continuously held his own since last November 18.

True, his light, if not literally hidden under a bushel, has not shown refulgently on Broadway.

When the season opened at the Jolson Theater, rechristened the Shakespeare Theater, on Seventh Avenue near Fifty-ninth Street, the critics turned away more or less cavalierly from "Midsummer Night's Dream."

"The chances for the theater's success were intimated as of the slimmest," writes Ben Washer in *The Morning Telegraph* (New York). But the story he has to tell recounts perhaps the longest Shakespearian season ever held in New York:

"The Julius Hopp who is in charge of the undertaking bothered little about the whys and wherefores on Broadway. He made contacts with this and that school, with that and this culture club and with the host of Shakespearian devotees who thrill to hear the Bard's lines spoken in any way whatsoever. His cast cooperated, continued to work for next to nothing.

"The owners of what used to be the Jolson Theater would listen to reason—and it is pleasant to report, on this fine April day, which is in the week of Shakespeare's 369th birthday, that The Shakespeare Theater is still muchly under way, that it has weathered the New York winter as well as the moratorium, and that next week it will get around to adding 'King Lear' to its repertoire.

"Fourteen of Shakespeare's plays have been brought to life on upper Seventh Avenue. 'Midsummer Night's Dream' was given twenty-two performances; 'The Comedy of Errors,' six; 'As You Like It,' thirteen; 'The Merchant of Venice,' twenty-three; 'Twelfth Night,' thirteen; 'Much Ado About Nothing,' nine; 'Julius Cæsar,' twenty; 'The Merry Wives of Windsor,' fifteen; 'The Tempest,' nine; 'Othello,' ten; 'Hamlet,' fourteen; 'Macbeth,' twenty-two; 'The Taming of the Shrew,' eleven, and 'Romeo and Juliet,' thirteen. "The 200th performance took place last light when 'Othello' was performed.

"And now they are rehearsing 'King Lear,' with Curtis Cooksye in the title rôle, and James McColl as Edmund.

"As far as we are concerned, there is something heartening about it all. As each year progresses, Shakespeare seems to live with increasing vitality.

"That's why we want to know why The Theater Guild has given up its idea of producing Talbott Jennings' 'This Side Idolatry,' which has to do with the youth of this same Will Shakespeare."

Mr. Brown of the New York *Evening Post* answers a critic of his reviews of three of the performances in repeating that he "personally would prefer never to see Shakespeare acted than to have him acted as they play him. He merits something more than good intentions."

English View of Germany's Musical Jingoism

MEMORIES NOT TOO SHORT will recall that German music was tabu here and elsewhere during the World War.

To find the Germans themselves putting a ban on their own musicians when not politically 100 per cent. by Nazi standards excites not only wonder but a reappraisal of Germany's musical pretenses.

"What has been shown up," writes Richard Capell in the London *Daily Telegraph*, "is the small degree of consideration felt for music in the country of all the world that has taken music most seriously. For all idealists it is a terrible disillusionment."

Mr. Capell writes from the English standpoint, and has no jingo spirit in advancing the prestige of English music. It is a tone of sadness over a fallen ideal:

"The prestige of musical Germany has for two hundred years stood high in England; and during the period from Beethoven to Strauss it was unrivaled. One of the striking phenomena of our times was its reestablishment after the upheaval of the war—not, indeed, by the latter-day Germany composers, who are decadent and futile enough, but by German executants.

"Now within the last month or so the new ruling party in Germany has treated a number of distinguished musicians in a way that is a disgrace. Bruno Walter has been forbidden to conduct in Leipzig—Mendelssohn's Leipzig! It sounds funny, like 'Alice in Wonderland.' Bruno Walter, it so happens, has a hooked nose and black hair; whereas flaxen hair and turned-up noses are now *de rigueur* in the land of Joachim and Artur Schnabel.

"It is not that we should so much feel Germany's misbehaving herself in any other way. She has done that before, as we all know to our cost. Our soreness comes from realizing, after all, how little of disinterested love of music there is in the world—how little the art which, it would seem, should inspire a kind of ideal passion, really counts in men's minds and actions, yes, even in musical Germany.

"That it should count little in England would be only what English musicians would expect; for is it not the constant complaint here that England does not regard music as of importance, that people will not go to concerts, will not subsidize an opera, will not subscribe to the musical magazines?

"But in Germany! In Germany—where opera-houses are subsidized in dozens, and where people take in quantities of musical magazines, the heavier the better! Germany—the musical Englishman's ideal State, the land of music par excellence that has always put our frivolity to shame!

"Recent events prove this musical Germany to be something of a sham. People who really cared for music as intensely as the Germans make out they do would not have tolerated that the least of music's interests should be sacrificed merely to political considerations—let alone to fantastic theories about Nordic noses.

"We must believe the Germans to be, after all, not musical enough, and that half their profest devotion was feigned; for the alternative is to disbelieve in the civilizing effect of music itself. Despite their cult of Bach and Beethoven and Wagner the Germans are obviously not civilized enough. They underrate the rights of music.

"It is *lèse-musique* to take into account, one way or the other, the color of a musician's politics or of his hair—or of his passport. Music has not civilized the Germans enough, or they would not have been impertinent to Toscanini, as they were the other day."

HISTORY, he understands, "might be made the handmaid of jingoism," but "the musical culture of the nation had still seemed to be something immensely real and solid and important." However:

"Now half the opera-houses in the country have had to change their directors for irrelevant political reasons, for all the world like the embassies of the United States after a Presidential election.

"How absurd are vanity and jingoism, that is to say, other people's vanity and jingoism! To think that Bach's genius should be an excuse for a modern German to inflate his self-

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esteem—well, it is a crazy world. Indeed, tho the Germans seem particularly self-infatuated at the moment, the nationalist craze is world-wide. The clever French become positively silly when they enlarge on the national genius. '*Musicien Français*,' so Debussy proudly inscribed himself. Constant Lambert has remarked—perhaps too kindly—that that is the only foolish thing he ever wrote.

"Friends, let us all beware. A few hot-heads of our own Incorporated Society of Musicians thought some eighteen months ago that a little of the fashionable musical jingoism of the Continent might well be tried over here. It had no great success, but one or two gestures made at the time by the Ministry of Labor were, in a modest way, as modish as they were regrettable.

"What all who truly care for music must know in their heart of hearts is that it is a betrayal to reduce it to the service of mean little tribal vanities."

Sherwood Anderson's Despair of Letters

SHERWOOD ANDERSON thinks literature is washed up, so he's gone movie.

Since Mr. Anderson's brother figures on the cover, it seems fitting to deal with another member of the family, known as the author of "Winesburg, Ohio," "Dark Laughter," "The Triumph of the Egg," "Death in the Woods," and other novels.

Not so long since he edited two papers in Marion, Virginia, but writing, he tells a reporter of the New York *Herald Tribune*, is "a dead business, and the young genius must look to the moving picture if he hopes to get anywhere."

His idea, of course, is not to add to the overcrowded field of movie actors. What the country needs, he says, is "a great American movie and not a great American novel."

He has been in the Middle West, "poking into factories where they work their men twenty-four hours a week at ten cents an hour." And this is the conviction he has reached:

"The movie really reaches the people. In a small town every one goes to the drug store after the show and talks it over, and then they go home to tell the plot to grandfather, whose bad knee has kept him in his chair, and they discuss it for a week until a new one comes.

"Movies should be simple. I am not sure I believe in propaganda movies, tho Eisenstein's 'Potemkin,' with that wonderful scene of the terror on the long flight of steps, was a great work. But the movies I have in mind should be simple stories of life in this country, in America. I believe it would work, tho I'm not entirely sure."

Mr. Anderson intends to follow his own advice and try his hand at scenarios.

THEN he gives out an assortment of ideas:

"'Quit writing books, it's out of style,' were his last words on the subject, and he turned to the sort of books people write. It was a question in his mind, he said, whether moving pictures would have to be dream-world pictures, opium for the tired mind. He told another story, of how he once explained to a Frenchman that some men were making $2,000 apiece for short stories.

"'How immoral,' was the answer.

"'All that cream's off now,' added Mr. Anderson, 'and I think it's a good thing.'

"From the dream-world in literature he turned to the dream-world in politics. He has been asking political questions in the West, and receiving interesting answers. Bums have told him, in response to a question about radicalism and Russia, that 'all that stuff's washed up,' and have added that if Roosevelt doesn't turn the trick, perhaps they'll vote Socialist next time. Small-town lawyers have rushed up to him brandishing synopses of home-made schemes for political regeneration.

"'It really depends on how you think of yourself,' he remarked. 'The average American thinks of himself as an incipient capitalist. If shooting's going to be done he sees himself being shot against a wall. In Marion, families think a great deal of themselves, and good families don't expect to have anything odd they do reported in the papers.

"When I started, the son of one got drunk, ran into some one, and was jailed. A friend came to me and told me I mustn't write up the case. He said it would kill the boy's mother. I said that a lot of fellows have been drunk and got arrested, and none of the mothers have died yet. I reported it, the mother survived, stopt her subscription, and a week later the hired man subscribed instead. People are queer enough. Since I think they are moved more by the movies, I hope to follow my own advice to the young.'

"Of authorship he painted a dreary picture. He pointed to the writer reaching a mere ten thousand, never making much money, lecturing.

"He told the story of a lecture he once delivered in Los Angeles, to several thousand eager club women, their mouths open for culture. They had looked so respectable he had tried to shock them into an awareness. After it was all over a delegation confronted him. 'Mr. Anderson,' said the formidable leader, 'we are glad to hear you talk as an idealist, as we are.'"

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The Bachtchisary Fountain

A side-light on rural Russia from a painting by A. Kuprin (see page 13).

The Cover

THE brother of Sherwood Anderson is represented on this week's cover by his picture "Mother and Children."

This mother with sturdy children forms an engaging group, painted without any of the affectations of modern art.

Karl Anderson, N.A., painter and illustrator, was born in Oxford, Ohio, January 13, 1874.

He studied at the Art Institute of Chicago, and abroad in Paris, Madrid, Holland, and Italy.

He is a member of the National Academy of Design; American Painters' Society; Salmagundi Club; National Arts Club; Contemporary Club, and the Allied Art Association.

His awards are: Silver medal, Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, 1910; Lippincott Prize, Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, 1916; Altman Prize ($500), National Academy of Design, 1917; French Gold Medal, Art Institute of Chicago, 1919; Gold Medal, National Arts Club, 1920; Honorable Mention, Grand Central Art Galleries, 1930.

In the various galleries of the country the following may be seen: "The Idlers," Art Institute of Chicago; "Sisters," City Art Museum, St. Louis, Missouri; "Apple Gatherers," Cleveland Museum; "The Heirloom," Pennsylvania Academy, Philadelphia; "Her Ladyship's Attendants," Harrison Gallery, Los Angeles Museum, California.

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"A Lotta T'ings" Learned in the Movies

A BOY FROM A HIGH-DELINQUENCY AREA in New York City was taken by one of Prof. Frederic M. Thrasher's investigators to see a certain motion-picture. In one scene a violin-case was opened and seen to be filled with packages of bank-notes. The audience gasped, but the boy was unmoved.

"What's the matter?" asked the investigator. "Doesn't that money bother you?"

"Naw, I expected a machine-gun," answered the boy.

"Why the machine-gun?" asked the investigator.

"Tell me any picture that ain't got a machine-gun in it. They all got typewriters (machine-guns) in them."

"Who's your favorite actor?"

"Jim Cagney."

"You like the way he acts?"

"I eat it. You get some ideas from his actin'. You learn how to pull off a job, how he bumps off a guy, an' a lotta t'ings."

A sample of "Minds Made by the Movies," a review by Arthur M. Kellogg in *The Survey Graphic* of a four-year study initiated by the Motion-Picture Research Council and made by the Payne Fund through its Educational Research Committee of psychologists and sociologists, of which Prof. W. W. Charters, of Ohio State University, is chairman.

The study, of which a popular summary by Henry James Forman is soon to be published, will be of absorbing interest to parents, producers, players, and the public.

See what the children, from five years up, see on the screen.

A study of 1,500 films in three selected years (500 each year), by Prof. Edgar Dale, psychologist, of Ohio State University, showed that crime, sex, and love were the subjects of 82 per cent. of all feature films in 1920, 88 per cent. in 1925, 72 per cent. in 1930.

"But the falling off in 1930," we read, "was more apparent than real, for there was a new 9 per cent. on mystery and war in which violence always and crime often appeared. So the child, at his weekly average show, saw fifty-two feature films, of which thirty-nine were on these three subjects."

AN analysis by Professor Dale of 115 films, taken at random, showed seventy-one deaths in forty-five films, 21 per cent. of them caused by the hero, 40 per cent. by the villain, the others accomplished in various ways. Only one was by a heroine. "For good measure there were thrown in fifty-nine cases of assault and battery, seventeen hold-ups, twenty-one kidnapings; 406 crimes were pulled off, and 43 others were attempted—a total of 449 crimes in 115 films."

Punishment played a minor rôle. "Nowhere was an attempt made to show the reaction to environment, the attrition of evil companionship, the slow cumulative process by which a criminal is made."

The goals pursued by the handsome young actors were, in the order of their frequency: winning another's love, marriage for love, professional success, revenge, crime for gain, illicit love, thrills or excitement, conquering a rival, financial success, enjoyment, concealment of guilt, marriage for money.

An array of evidence shows the bad emotional effect of highly exciting pictures.

It is reinforced by a statement by Dr. Frederick Peterson, a distinguished New York neurologist: "If sufficiently strong they have an effect very similar to shell shock such as soldiers received in war. A healthy child seeing a picture once in a while will suffer no harm. But repeating the stimulation often amounts to emotional debauch. Stimulation, when oft repeated, is cumulative. Scenes causing horror and fright are sowing the seeds in the system for future neuroses and psychoses—nervous disorders."

"EVIDENCE of the effects of the movies on juvenile behavior is clear both statistically and in the poignant statements made to Prof. Herbert Blumer, of the Department of Sociology, University of Chicago, by children from many social groups, from neighborhoods rated as good, fair, and of high delinquency; from children in public schools, detention homes, and prisons."

For instance: "Movies have shown me the way of stealing automobiles, the charge for which I am now serving a sentence." Professor Blumer, we read, made a list of thirty-one specific bits of training in burglary which young fellows in prison told him they had learned from watching gangster pictures.

TESTIMONY on the bad effect of emphasis on sex in the movies is overwhelming, we are told. One instance may suffice here. A high-school girl states: "The only benefit I ever got from the movies was in learning to love and a knowledge of sex. When I was about twelve years old I started browsing around and I remember I used to advantage my knowledge of how to love, to be loved, and how to respond."

"It must appear from even this brief sampling that the Motion Picture Research Council has ventilated scientifically and inexorably one of the major educational problems of our time," writes Mr. Kellogg:

"It makes us realize that the youngsters in the seats down front see things that we miss, and carry away things which we had wiped out with an 'adult discount.' It announces that after the completion of the studies and the publication of the results it will 'make recommendations in connection with the use of the film art.'

"Nothing tried thus far—National Board of Review—State censorships, laws barring children from theaters—has accomplished the Committee's purpose. The spirit of the times and of the courts is distinctly away from legal censorship. The obvious plan of keeping children away from films that might injure them does not work in crowded city neighborboods where driven tenement mothers have little control over their children.

"There remains the possibility of public pressure on the movie-producers to play the game with the parents of America, to have a heart for the children. To such appeals they might more readily give ear in a time of dwindling audiences and of receiverships than they did at the crest of their gilded wave.

Measurement

By Arthur Wallace Peach

WHO measures man beside a hill
Will find that he is humble still.

Tall pines against a northern sky
Have wisdom I could profit by.

The grave sweet songs the hill brooks sing
Have themes they learned from every spring.

And there is reason why the thrush
Prefers for song the twilight's hush.

Let me be humble, then, before
The high hills' truth, the hill brooks' lore;

And at the twilight's ending pray
With thrushes for the vanished day.

Let me remember seed and sod
Reveal the prophecies of God!

—*The Churchman, New York.*

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"In hard times, with the need of getting new ticket-buyers in their seats, it might seem to them good sense to reach out for public approval and for films that would interest distinctive groups."

Vulgarity no longer pays at motion-picture box-offices, and the industry during 1932 recognized this improvement in the public's taste by producing pictures that were socially important as well as entertaining, says Will H. Hays in his annual report to the Motion-Picture Producers and Distributors of America, of which he is president.

MR. HAYS cites figures to show that seven national organizations indorsed 413 of the 476 pictures their committees viewed during the year as suitable for family, adult, or child entertainment, rejecting only sixty-three. But he warns producers not to be too complacent about these figures:

"The resentment created by one bad picture is ten times as great as the articulate approval accorded ten good pictures. Public opinion is in a highly critical mood. It is looking with appraising eyes on government, on finance, on industry. It resents coarseness or vulgarity on the screen.

And sex perversion in pictures is "out," Mr. Hays angrily told a gathering of producers, production and writing executives at Hollywood. After berating them for putting such ideas into pictures, Mr. Hays served them with this warning, we read in *Variety:*

"If you Hollywood producers make a picture that violates the code, we will send it back to you to change. If you do not change it, I shall go over your heads to your New York executives, and if they fail to satisfy us, we shall go to your bankers.

"If they do not see our point and order the necessary cleaning up, I shall carry my complaint to the American public through the newspapers, telling by name the company that persists in dealing in dirt."

Mrs. Buck's Resignation

UNORTHODOX in her religious views, Mrs. Pearl S. Buck has done the orthodox thing by resigning as a missionary of the Presbyterian Church.

This step, which was voluntary, was inspired, it is said, by her desire to save the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions further "embarrassment" caused by differences of opinion between her and church members over some of her theological views. The resignation was accepted "with regret."

As noted in these pages last week, Mrs. Buck got into hot water when she said that the doctrine that heathen races are damned unless they hear the Gospel is "a magic religion." Exception was taken to other outspoken "heresies" and to her criticism of the type of missionaries sent to China. Mrs. Buck, it is said, still stands on her expressions of faith, and will return to China with her husband, Dr. J. Lossing Buck.

Her chief critic, Dr. J. Gresham Machen, condemns the board for not dismissing her instead of accepting her resignation. But a spokesman for the Board says that Mrs. Buck will continue as a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Baby Helen—An Issue Between State and Mother

OPERATE, said medical science and the law.

"No," said the mother, "let God have His way."

But the law enforced its decision, and two-year-old Helen Vasko will live or die, as the long-delayed operation is successful or not, but, anyway, in accordance with God's will. For a doctor, too, may be an instrument of Providence.

Keystone

Saved By the State

Baby Helen Vasko, whose left eye was removed by court order after her parents had refused to permit the operation which doctors said was necessary to save her life.

Unheard of and unknown a few months ago beyond her own doorstep, at Hastings-on-Hudson, Baby Helen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Vasko, Czecho-Slovakian immigrants, became by instinctive adoption, a daughter of the country.

And what, perhaps, is more important from a legal and sociological point of view, she establishes a precedent. She is the first child in whose interests the State of New York overrode the wishes of the parents and ordered an operation as the only means to save her life.

ON a visit to the Grasslands Hospital to see her father, a patient there, it was discovered by sympathetic doctors that the child was suffering from glioma on the retina of the left eye. They said that the malignant growth would spread to her brain, blind her, and ultimately cause her death. They conceded that an operation was dangerous and that the chance of recovery was fifty-fifty. The baby, who had been treated with herb medicine, it is said, played about, all unaware of the agitation she was causing, of the fact that a great State was moving in her behalf.

On application by the Westchester Children's Society, Judge George Smyth, of the Westchester Children's Court, adjudged the baby a "neglected child," and ordered an operation. To make certain that his own verdict was correct, Judge Smyth appointed Francis R. Fay, a Yonkers attorney, to represent the child, and directed him to appeal the order.

The problem was put before the Appellate Division. The court, consisting of five justices, held that the State has a right to intervene for the sake of the child, and concurred in the opinion written by Associate Justice Hagarty. The opinion, which will be of interest to parents confronted with a similar problem, is, in part, as follows:

"This appeal presents, primarily, the right of the State, in a proper case, to assume the discharge of duties of parents or guardians in matters involving the life, health, and physical welfare of their children or wards when it appears that the parents or guardians, through ignorance, fanaticism, or for arbitrary reasons, have become derelict in their duty and failed to perform it.

"'The law is not only zealous in the protection of the civil rights of infants but has a special regard for the moral care, training, and guidance of children,' as was written in People ex rel. Deordio v. Palmer (230 App. Div. 397); but its beneficence extends also to conservation of the health of children, their physical well-being, as well as to the preservation of their lives.

"If parents or guardians neglect their duty in respect to any

(*Continued on page 20*)

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TO MEET TODAY'S LOW PRICES

SAVE money NOW! Firestone Quality is higher than ever. *Prices probably will never be as low again.* These prices cannot last. Equip your car *today* and get these Extra Values — *before prices go still higher.*

These *Extra Values* are made possible by *tremendous savings* effected by manufacturing the complete line of Firestone Tires, Batteries, Brake Lining, Spark Plugs, Rims and Accessories, in our own *most efficient* factories and distributing them through dealers direct from factories and warehouses — *a One Profit, Low Expense System.*

Firestone Tires are not made by cheap labor — to sell at a price. Every tire is built with the patented Firestone features of *Gum-Dipping* and *Two Extra Gum-Dipped Cord Plies* under the *scientifically designed Non-Skid Tread.* They give you *Added Safety* and *Longer Mileage.*

Take advantage of these *Extra Values today.* Buy Firestone Gum-Dipped Tires with the confidence that they are *built up to a Quality — not down to a price.*

Visit the Firestone Building at "A Century of Progress," Chicago. See the famous Gum-Dipped tires being made in a modern Firestone tire factory

THE MASTERPIECE OF TIRE CONSTRUCTION

FIRESTONE High Speed Tires are made of the *finest materials* by *master tire builders.* They are FIRST CHOICE of race drivers who know tires and will not take chances or risk their lives on ordinary tires.

For thirteen consecutive years, Firestone Gum-Dipped Tires have been on the winning cars in the 500-mile Indianapolis Race—the most gruelling test for any tire.

Road speeds of today are the *racing speeds* of yesterday. *Don't take chances* on inferior or thin, worn tires—guard the *safety* of yourself and family.

Trade in your old worn tires *today.* Any one of the 30,000 Firestone Service Dealers and Firestone Service Stores will give you a *liberal allowance* to apply on a set of Firestone High Speed Tires—*the Safest Tires in the world.*

REMEMBER—*your brakes can stop your wheels, but your tires must stop your car.*

THE *New* Firestone SEALTYTE *Leakproof* TUBE

Coated inside with a special compound which seals against air loss. Flexible rubber valve stem—*no chance for air leakage.* Constant air pressure *increases tire mileage.*

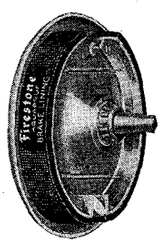
Firestone BATTERIES

Firestone Batteries set a new high standard of *Power, Dependability, Long Life* and *Economy. All makes of batteries tested FREE.*

$5.40 and your old battery

MAGNEX BATTERIES $3.95 and your old battery

Firestone



As low as $2.4

30,000 FIRESTONE DEALERS a

The Greatest Distribution a

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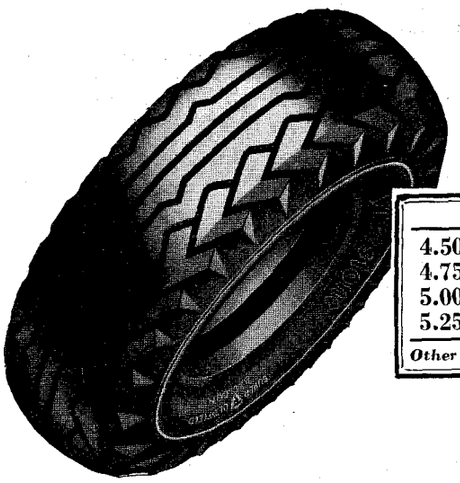
Announcing THE NEW

Firestone



4.40-21 $5.27

SIZE	PRICE
4.50-21	$5.85
4.75-19	6.30
5.00-20	7.00
5.25-18	7.65

Other Sizes Proportionately Low

SUPER OLDFIELD TYPE

This tire is the equal of all standard brand first line tires in ıality, Construction and Appearance. Sold at a price that affords u *real savings.*

FIRESTONE OLDFIELD TYPE

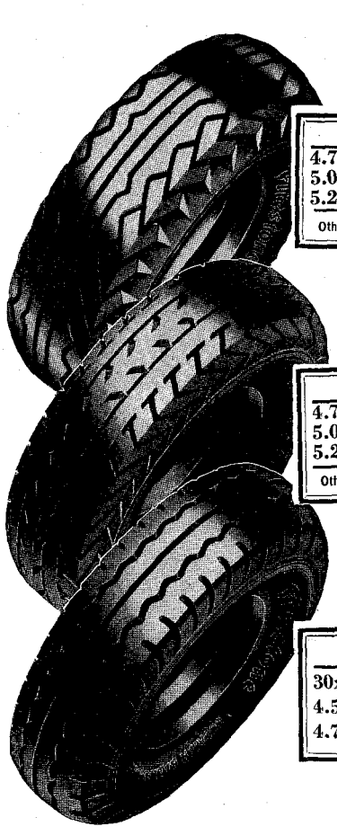
This tire is superior in quality to first line special brand tires ıde without the manufacturer's name and guarantee, offered · sale by department stores, oil companies, and mail order :alog houses. This is "*The Tire That Taught Thrift to Millions.*"

FIRESTONE SENTINEL TYPE

This tire is of better Quality, Construction and Workmanship ın second line special brand tires made without the manufac-·er's name and guarantee and offered for sale by mail order uses and others.

FIRESTONE COURIER TYPE

This tire is of good Quality and Workmanship — carries the me "Firestone" and full guarantee — sold as low as many cheap ·cial brand tires manufactured to sell at a price.



4.40-21 $4.65

SIZE	PRICE
4.75-19	$5.65
5.00-19	6.10
5.25-18	6.85

Other Sizes Proportionately Low

4.40-21 $4.20

SIZE	PRICE
4.75-19	$5.10
5.00-19	5.48
5.25-18	6.17

Other Sizes Proportionately Low

4.40-21 $3.25

SIZE	PRICE
30x3½	$3.15
4.50-21	3.85
4.75-19	4.20

E LINING

'irestone Aqua-ining is mois-d embodies a which produces *ing action* and *braking control. brakes tested*

ıg Charges Extra

Firestone SPARK PLUGS

Give a *hotter spark, increased power,* and have a *longer life.* Double tested and sealed against power leakage. Old worn plugs waste gasoline. *Have your spark plugs tested FREE.*

58c Each in Sets

MAGNEX SPARK PLUGS 3 for $1.00

COMPARE

CONSTRUCTION
QUALITY • PRICE

at any one of the 30,000 Firestone Dealers and Firestone Service Stores

FIRESTONE SERVICE STORES

ervice System in the World

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(*Continued from page 17*)

one of those obligations, the State in its wisdom, through its laws, intervenes. While the question now before us has never been presented to an appellate court in this State in so far as I am able to determine, power in the court to act rests upon ample authority."

"Children come into the world helpless, subject to all the ills to which flesh is heir," continues the opinion. "They are entitled to the benefit of all laws made for their protection—whether affecting their property, their personal rights or their persons—by the Legislature, the sovereign power of the State."

The operation was successfully performed by Dr. John H. Dunnington, assistant director of Ophthalmology in Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, and the baby is expected to recover.

Lay discussion is upon the right of the State to override the wishes of the parents in such a situation. "Children are not the possession of their parents in such absoluteness that the desires of the parents transcend the needs of the child," says the Memphis *Commercial Appeal*. "To the contrary, the right of children to life, health and happiness is superior to any rights the parents may have in their children."

But the Camden *Courier-Post* declares for the mother. "The State," it says, "only weakens itself by venturing on such debatable ground."

The Age of Danger

NINETEEN CANDLES IN HIS BIRTHDAY CAKE, and to-morrow he may be on his way to jail. And father, home from the club, and mother, home from bridge, will not have a crum of comfort.

Nineteen, it seems, is the age of danger. Youths of that age "still lead the nation's crime procession, as revealed by statistics compiled from finger-print cards received in the United States Bureau of Investigation from January 1, 1933, to March 31, 1933," says a report issued by the Department of Justice.

And, "treading hard on the heels of those delinquents in the last year of their 'teens, are persons under twenty-one years of age, who account for one of each five whose arrest records were examined." Forty per cent. of the crime records examined pertain to persons less than twenty-five years of age.

Of the total number of persons arrested, the percentage under twenty-one is shown by the following table in instances where the proportion of youthful offenders was high:

Automobile theft	45.8
Burglary	38.8
Robbery	27.9
Rape	26.7
Larceny	26.4

"These figures indicate," says the report, "that auto theft is an offense which is particularly characteristic of youth. So also is the offense of burglary, altho in a somewhat less pronounced degree."

THIS, it is pretty generally agreed, is an appalling record for Church, home, and society to contemplate. It is they who stand accused—not the boy who might have nineteen candles in his birthday cake. "The criminal at nineteen," says the Dallas *Morning News*, "is the conclusive evidence that his world failed him earlier than that."

Society must take its blame for the situation, agrees the Charlotte *Observer*. "The older generation can only look the statistics in the face with a blush and a pang of repentance. It must bear in large measure the odium of the record." And *The Observer* thinks:

"There was deep philosophy in the old Saxon law by which the community was indicted and not the individual offender when crime was committed.

"It was an expression of the practical truth that society must take credit not only for its developments, its reformations and its progress, but that it is to blame when the gears go into reverse, and wickedness and waywardness begin to surge among its people."

IN a stern arraignment of society for miseducation of youth, the Washington *Evening Star* points out:

"If adults unhesitatingly take chances with the law, it is inevitable that adolescent boys and girls will be guided by their example.

"Adults can not pick and choose as to which laws they will obey and which ignore without young people doing likewise. The children of a nation can not be expected to practise a higher standard of morals than their parents. It is an axiom of sociology that many so-called 'bad' sons and daughters have had that kind of fathers and mothers.

"Complaints against youth, then, are in effect complaints against the homes from which they come. Good home conditions produce good citizens. If there is an occasional exception, the fault usually can be traced to the contagion of companions carelessly chosen, themselves the victims of imperfect training.

"Young criminals, certainly, deserve no apology, nor will they be accorded any.

"But before the entire youth of the country is indicted for anarchy it would be well for its critics to examine with scrupulous care the background against which the misdemeanors occur and from which, in some portion at least, the bulk of them derive. Crime does not simply happen by accident; it is not spontaneously generated. On the contrary, it has promoting causes which too frequently lie deeply hidden in social character."

A Prize Tribute to Mother

YOUNGEST OF A FAMILY OF SEVEN GIRLS and a boy, younger than most of her classmates, and an honor student, fourteen-year-old Esther Elwofsky achieves a new distinction. And that by putting down in a few simple words all that she feels for her mother.

Esther is a Brooklyn high-school girl, the daughter of Mrs. Pauline Elwofsky. With more than 600 other children she participated in a nation-wide contest for prizes awarded by the Mother's Day Committee of the Golden Rule Foundation. The children's tokens consist of prose, poetry, and song. Esther's is in prose, in just four paragraphs, in which she compresses all that others have taken volumes to express. Her tribute won the first prize, $50, offered by Mrs. Frank Presbrey, vice-chairmain of the Mother's Day committee. It was presented at the Lincoln Building headquarters of the foundation, in New York City, by Charles H. Tuttle, acting chairman of the board of trustees of the Foundation.

Here is Esther's tribute, as it is quoted in *The Times:*

"MOTHER'S DAY

"One day in the year set aside for mothers—how strange a custom! Like setting one day aside to grasp the beauty of the sun, the moon, the stars—all the lovely, natural things that bring warmth, light, comfort.

"Many times I have longed to set my thoughts down upon paper. Not in the flowery language of greeting-cards, but in the simple language of love. I write the words, 'Dear Mother'—lovely tender words—and grow silent beneath the weight of thoughts and memories that, lying buried like precious jewels beneath the dust of years, arise clear and glowing in my mind.

"Impossible to describe the homely beauty of these thoughts: warm kitchen filled with the scent of bread, sunlight dappling a clean white cloth, touching the rosy apples in their copper bowl; tender memories of loving acts and dreary tasks done smilingly while the sun shone and the years marched swiftly past, and youth, perhaps secretly mourned, passed with it.

"How describe the broad, deep-bosomed earth, symbol of maternity—awakening in the spring of the year, lying fruitful beneath the summer sun, resting from its labors in the autumn and dreaming peacefully wrapt in snowy mantle? Dwelling upon these thoughts we hear borne strong on the wind the galloping hoofs of Time astride the ceaseless cycles of the years, drawing nearer and nearer. Then caught by a vague fear, we say or we think or we write, 'Dear Mother.'"

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"I'll call you up!"

A HUSBAND bids his wife goodbye as he leaves in the morning. "I'll call you up," he says reassuringly. A guest leaves after a pleasant week-end. "I'll call you up," she tells her hostess. An executive sits at his desk handling varied business matters, large and small. "I'll call you up," he answers many times every day.

"I'll call you up" is a phrase that has become part of our language and part of our modern security. Beneath the surface meaning of the words is something more than a casual promise to maintain contact. It is a phrase of confidence and a phrase of friendship. Implied in it is a nearness to everything and everybody.

The familiar gesture of lifting the telephone receiver holds boundless possibilities. It may avert a danger, end an anxiety, insure an order. Or it may be for some trivial pleasant purpose—a jest to be shared, a greeting to be spoken, a direction to be given.

Over the telephone speed the thoughts and ideas that change destiny, bring new hope to the wondering and greater achievement to the ambitious. Over the telephone come the "Yes" and "No," the "I'll be there" and the "Come at once" that signify decision and create action.

Think what this world would be like if you could not telephone so easily to so many people. No friend or place is far away when you can say—"I'll call you up."

AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY

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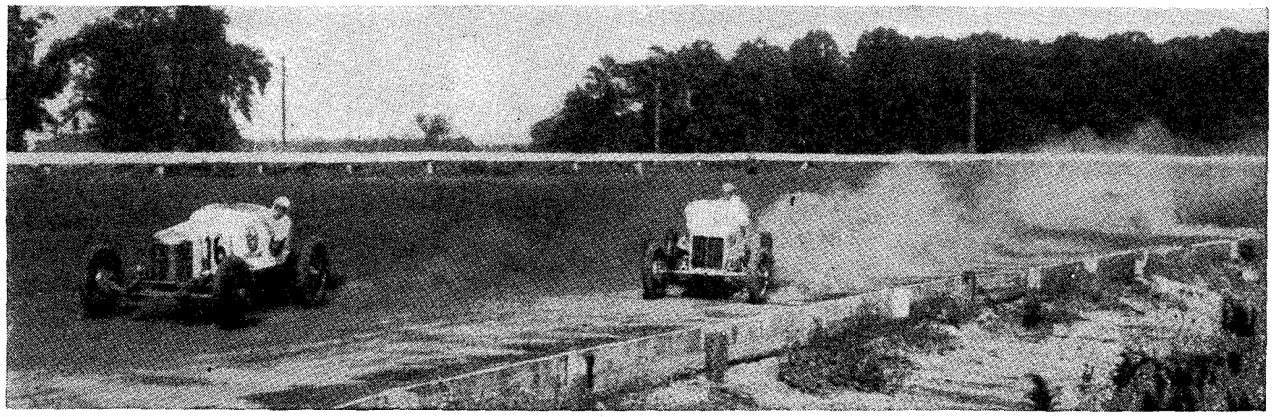

Wide World

Learn to Skid! It May Save Your Life. Auto-racers Do It on Every Curve

Skidding as a Fine Art

LEARN TO SKID! advises a British authority on driving.

All motorists know that under certain conditions, a car will skid even with four-wheel brakes.

Yet few motorists ever forearm themselves by learning to master this maneuver of the car. Those veterans who have learned how to bring a car out of a skid safely often have acquired their knowledge unconsciously and quite by accident. Says William Ullman, in his Feature Service (Washington):

"Now comes a British authority with the novel suggestion that every one who drives a car should master skidding just as he does steering, backing, stopping, or any other driving gesture. His suggestion has met considerable response.

"Skidding really is a fascinating subject. The writer recalls it as the topic of one of the most spirited gatherings of engineers he ever attended. Before the session ended, toy automobiles were racing down an inclined drawing board with a seemingly bewitched crowd of experts studying their every movement as they slid, whirled, pivoted, and otherwise acted as good cars should not.

"It may strike many as strange that skidding actually can have its advantages. Yet dirt-track race-drivers use a skid to turn each time they strike a curve. The best skidder has a decided margin on the worst in any race of this character. It is not alone on the speedway, however, that mastery of the art is valuable. The writer has recorded an instance in which a serious accident was averted only because the driver, who was the hero of the occasion, knew enough to skid around another car which had skidded directly across the road in front of him.

"This case, of course, is reproduced too infrequently to regard it as typical, but all motorists are likely to skid and, many declare, wisdom suggests knowing what to do under the circumstances. This knowledge, obviously, may be the difference between averting an accident and failing to avert one. Every motorist must have seen the truth of such an estimate.

"An analysis of skidding reveals that, in combination with a wet highway surface, a number of factors may cause the car to slide out of a straight path. Unequal brakes, unequal tire pressures, uneven tire treads, sudden hard application of the accelerator—all these are causes that may be found in almost any car at any time. Oversteering and excessive speed rounding curves or corners are two other causes of the same trouble."

IT is not the cause of skidding, however, that is the important factor in mastering it, so much as what to do after it starts. Ordinarily one does—or should do—two things simultaneously. If the car has been put into a slide by the use of the brakes, the pedal pressure should be removed at once. At the same time the front wheels should be turned in the direction of the skid. To quote further:

"Counseling a driver to turn the steering wheel 'in the direction of the skid' frequently leaves him confused. He often is not quite certain just what is meant by 'direction of the skid.' Here is the simple explanation: If the rear of the car slides off to the right, as it does in a majority of cases because of the camber of the road, twist the front wheels around to the right. Of course, if the rear wheels slide to the left, the front wheels should be turned in that direction.

"That is 'steering into the skid.' Any one who ever, as a youngster, played 'crack the whip' knows how this will straighten out the car. Another way to learn is to take a toy automobile and demonstrate it to oneself.

"Remembering to turn in the direction of the sliding rear wheels, for many drivers, perhaps a majority, is not nearly so difficult as remembering to release the brakes. Every impulse is to apply them the harder, particularly if traffic is slightly congested and the possibility of striking another car seems imminent. Keeping one's foot on the brakes, however, is the best way to exaggerate the wild maneuver, regardless of how ridiculous it may seem.

"Especially is it imperative to release the brakes if the car is in that most treacherous of skids—one that involves the front as well as the rear wheels. In a slide of this character, the chances are that the front wheels will be locked, and a locked wheel is always more difficult to steer, tho steerable to a certain extent—much as a bob-sled is.

"With millions of motorists now touring, driving on unfamiliar highways that curve, bend, dip, and rise from mile to mile, it is certain that skidding conditions are going to be quite common. The combination of wet surface, high speed, and strange territory is almost unbeatable for sending the car into a tangent that may be terrifying.

"The terror can be removed if the driver does not wait to learn how to escape. He should practise, and practise can be obtained, just as steering or backing practise was obtained when one was learning to drive the first time, by going to some deserted highway that is wide and free from curves. Of course, the day on which the trip is made will have to be a damp one, and considerable caution exercised at first.

"On such a day and on such a road, the driver can pick up to a speed of twenty-five miles an hour, suddenly apply the brakes and put the car into a skid. If he releases the brakes and steers into the skid, he will be out of it almost instantly. Several repetitions of the process, and if the terrors of this old bogy are not eliminated, it must suggest a natural lack of driving skill or an excessive timidity."

Water as Medicine

MANY people do not realize the benefit to be had from a single glass of water.

It may be hot or cold, as you like. You may sip it, or quaff it at a swallow, if you wish.

It is Dr. Ghislain-Houzel who writes the prescription for us in *L'Ami du Peuple* (Paris). He says:

"Glasses of water quite cool, taken abundantly between meals, in the morning early, in the evening as you step into bed, will promote the proper action of your kidneys, enabling them to function more energetically and more effectively at the same time.

"It might be noted in passing that warm water is an emetic always at hand, one which maybe useful on occasion in the event of the introduction into the stomach of elements alien to it.

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"If tepid water gives powers of resistance to our stomach, water that is hot will not incommode it.

"On the contrary, hot water may make the cleansing of the stomach simpler, and may indeed render its processes easier.

"Take every morning, before eating, a coffee cup full of water as hot as you can stand it.

"You might, if you feel impelled, drop in a suspicion of lemon juice.

"You will soon feel the beneficial effects of this hot drink.

"Your stomach will rid itself of all the unpleasant residues that embarrass it, and your day will pass in a more agreeable manner.

"Now and then a doctor has his patient take in quite a quantity of water before a repast, and then lie down for twenty minutes. The water may be warm, cold, or even hot, according to circumstances.

"The practise of water-drinking tends to abate the tendency to arteriosclerosis.

"In truth, water-drinking, cultivated as a habit and as a satisfaction, practised assiduously, will ward off many of the infections which might otherwise jeopardize our existence."

Finger-prints to Protect Checks From Forgery

THIS is seen as a possible outgrowth of the present banking situation if the Postal Savings System is expanded to provide for checking accounts.

Finger-prints are required of all depositors and those withdrawing money from postal-savings depositories in the larger post-offices to-day. Says *Science News Letter*, a Science Service publication (Washington):

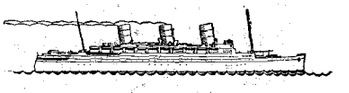
"When you open your account and make your first deposit, your finger-print is taken and filed with a description of you and other identifying material in that post-office. To withdraw your money, you must go in person to that same post-office and again have your finger-print taken. If the finger-prints are identical, you get your money. But the forger or thief would betray his false identity.

"If finger-prints were required on all checks, this would serve as practically a positive guaranty against forgery. For your finger-print is your own personal property, and unlike that of any other individual in the world.

"Expanding the Postal Savings System to allow depositors to draw negotiable or transferable checks on their accounts might make it necessary to establish at a clearing-house a finger-print file of the depositors in that locality with which all checks could be compared before payment. Such comparisons could be handled very quickly; the U. S. Bureau of Identification checks daily over 2,000 finger-prints against their file of over 3,000,000 prints, and in addition the criminal record of each individual is looked up and reports sent to all police systems interested. For the purpose of clearing checks it would only be necessary to look up the name in a card file and verify the print. It would not even be necessary to classify the print.

"Finger-prints can be made easily without special equipment or any particular muss or bother. Just press the finger on a clean rubber-stamp pad or other inked surface, then roll the finger firmly on the check."

GO SOCIABLY



TO EUROPE

Lounge on a "Duchess"... cheery, spacious, tastefully decorated.

Is meeting new people part of the fun of travel to you? Do you like to go light, and dress as you please? Do you enjoy the trip itself... the pleasant, pretty cabin, the cheerful chatter of the lounge? Then book your next crossing Cabin or Tourist Class Canadian Pacific...with a passenger-list of nice people who know how to have a pleasant time. ¶ Fast "Empresses," cheery "Duchesses," popular "Mont-ships." ¶ From Montreal and Québec to British and Continental ports. Your first 2 days on smooth St. Lawrence Seaway. Only 3 to 4 days open ocean. ¶ Travel-time map, information, reservations, your own agent, or any Canadian Pacific office: New York, Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Detroit, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Montreal and 27 other cities in United States and Canada.

CANADIAN PACIFIC

St. Lawrence Seaway

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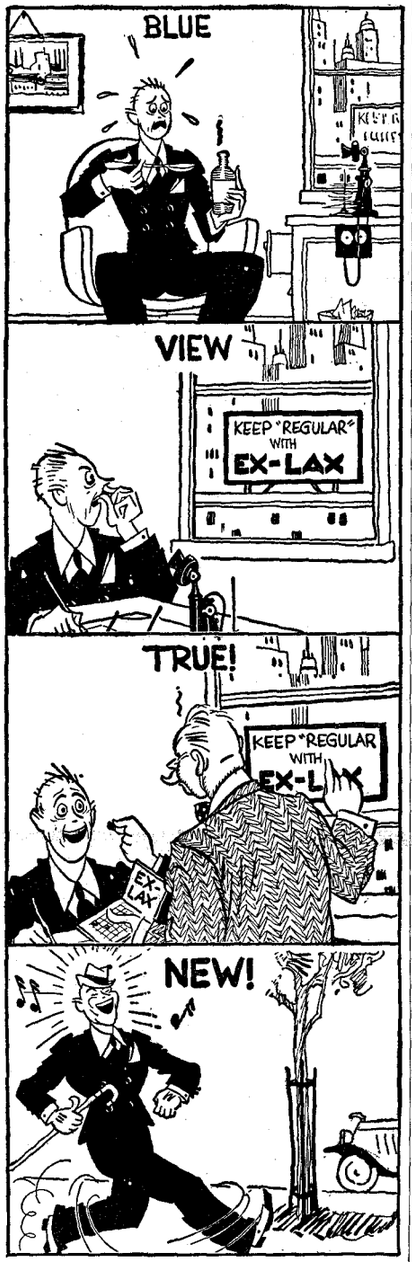
"REGULAR" FOLKS

BY JEFFERSON MACHAMER



YOU'LL feel like a "new" man in the morning if you take an Ex-Lax or two tonight. And you'll never go back to bitter, nasty-tasting laxatives after that. For Ex-Lax tastes just like delicious chocolate. Yet it is so safe, so mild, so scientific, so effective—for every age. When Nature forgets—remember Ex-Lax.

At all drug stores, in 10c and 25c sizes.

Keep "regular" with

EX-LAX

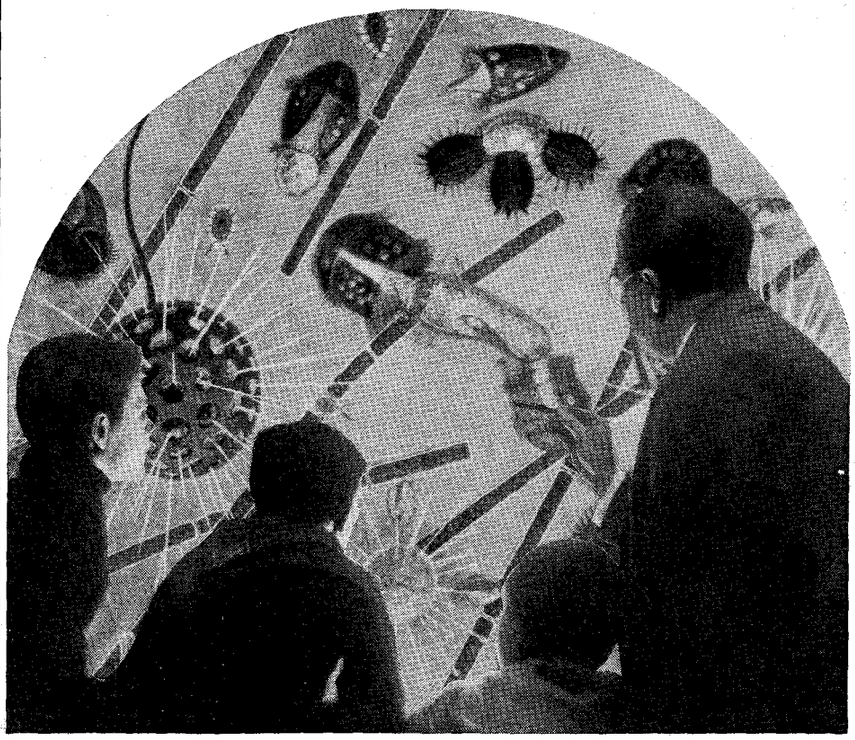
THE CHOCOLATED LAXATIVE

Micro-zoo at Chicago Fair

THEY call it a micro-vivarium.

The difference between it and a lantern slide of a cell or spore is the difference between a zoo and a collection of stuffed animals.

The micro-vivarium is alive. By its same twilight. Huge disks of light on the walls suggest tanks teeming with marine life. Movement and color. Waving filaments. Globes that bounce off an object with which they collide as if they were rubber. Dumb-bells that have a queer way of splitting up into other dumb-bells.



Photograph by Halbran

Dr. Römmert (right) and His Micro-zoo

means the simple, lower forms, seen only by the fortunate possessor of a microscope, become the admiration of the multitude. Altho the exhibit will show microscopical organisms from all over the world as well as the development of gorgeous crystal formations, it is interesting to note that the whole show will be given by the inhabitants of but one-tenth of a thimbleful of water.

THE fantastic shapes that are frozen in black and white in book illustrations now squirm, forage for food, reproduce. Says a Chicago dispatch to the New York *Times:*

The micro-vivarium is the creation of Dr. George Römmert, well known in his native Germany as an authority on micro-projection, who is now introducing his object-lesson method of teaching the facts of lower life in this country.

He has done for the ameba and similar forms what the Zeiss planetarium has done for the heavens. Indeed, his micro-vivarium surpasses the planetarium in that there is nothing about it that is not nature herself. The stars on the artificial vault of a planetarium are, after all, the projections of electric lights, but the microscopic forms that Dr. Römmert throws on a screen in horrifying dimensions are the originals.

In the Hall of Science at Chicago's Century of Progress, to be opened this summer, his methods are to be demonstrated on a scale never before attempted.

At first glance a micro-vivarium might be mistaken for an aquarium. There is the

The vast universe of the invisible is revealed—the universe that only the microscope can unfold.

Tornado Time Is Here

SEVERE cyclonic storms, amounting at times to tornadoes like the recent destructive twisters in the Middle South, can be expected at this time of year, according to the U. S. Weather Bureau.

They are the result of spring atmospheric conditions: a mass of warm, moist air invading the land from the Gulf, meeting a mass of cold air moving from the west or northwest. Says a report of Science Service (Washington):

The funnel-shaped tornado cloud forms in the upper air, and works downward, its tip eventually reaching toward the ground and occasionally touching it with disastrous results to anything in its path.

While the Weather Bureau frequently has advance knowledge of conditions that may cause a tornado, it pursues a policy of not giving out tornado warnings as it gives out hurricane warnings. This is because hurricanes are highly dependable disasters, whereas tornadoes are not. They frequently spend their force in the upper air, and in any case the path of a tornado, if it does touch ground, is so narrow and so unpredictable in location that tornado forecasts would probably do more harm by alarming people than they would do good by warning the relatively few who may be directly affected.

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to
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Trained Insects

HAVE insects minds?

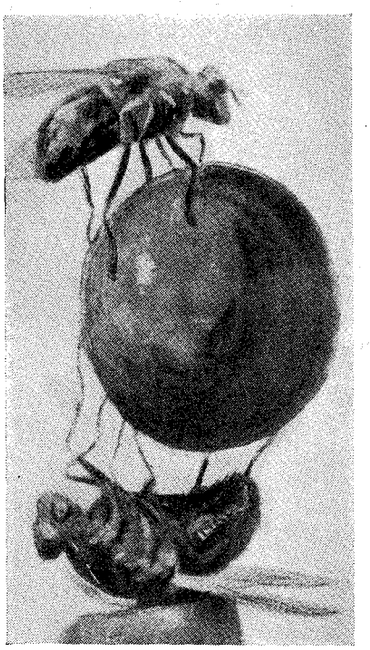
They surely have something that is susceptible to training; for every one knows that they can be trained.

How it is done is explained by the author of an article on "Educated Insects" in *The American Weekly* (New York).

He deduces the "fundamental biological conclusion" that the lowest insect differs in this respect from man only in the amount—not in the kind—of its ability. We read:

Insect races and circus performers provide, perhaps, the best evidence available for the conclusion that insects have brains that can be trained like those of any other animals, and that the fundamental nature of nerve cells and of mind are the same throughout the whole of animal nature.

Some insect feats, it is true, are merely



Photograph by Brown Brothers

Fly Acrobats

apparent. In many cockroach races, the insects are merely started off in long, straight lanes from which they can not escape except by going forward.

So with some of the feats of hauling heavy loads. This feat, either for man or insect, proves mere muscular power rather than intelligence or training.

BUT these by no means exhaust the feats of the insect circuses. There is, for example, the way in which Mr. R. A. Nokes trains a new flea to abandon the habit of jumping four or five feet every time anything interests or alarms it. Naturally, this habit must be broken before the flea can be trusted in an insect circus. The writer goes on:

To break their habit, Mr. Nokes uses a small hollow globe of glass four or five inches in diameter. When a new flea is first put in, it jumps for freedom. Instantly the bewildered insect finds itself flat on the floor, with head badly bruised. This keeps up, Mr. Nokes describes, for three or four weeks.

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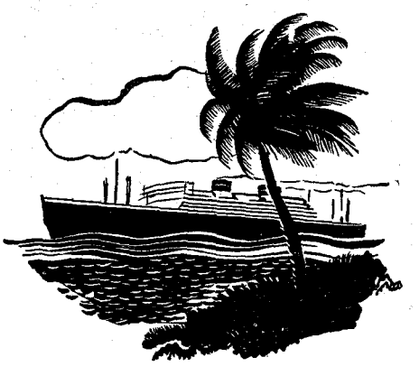

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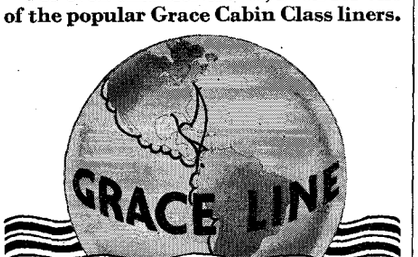

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jump is followed, infallibly, by a bad knock-out and no escape. Any wise insect loses the habit of jumping altogether. Another feat for which he prepares them is walking on a tight-rope. To do this, the flea is placed on the tiny tight-rope again and again.

Every time he jumps off or falls off he is put back. Finally, he learns that he must stay on if he is to be undisturbed. Human training is similar, for musicians train a child to play the piano, for example, by forcing repetition of the task until it is performed correctly.

Not all of us would care to reward Mr. Flea as this trainer does. As we read:

Animal training and human training usually require reward or punishment, and this also the insect trainer needs. For his fleas, Mr. Nokes states, the reward is to be picked up and put on the trainer's arm, to feed on his blood.

For punishment, Mr. Nokes hangs his badly behaved fleas for a while on a loop of chain fastened to the flea by a tiny gold collar put around the insect's neck under a jeweler's microscope.

Meanwhile scientists have not been idle in the study of insect learning or training. In the biological laboratories of New York University, Prof. Theodore C. Schneirla has studied the intelligence of ants by testing their abilities to learn their way through a maze.

Professor Schneirla finds that his ant pupils learn in much the same way as other animals.

Even the crayfish, it seems, can be taught a trick or two. Thus:

That ability to learn new things is by no means confined to the higher members of the insect creation is proved by the experiences of an Australian scientist, Prof. W. E. Agar, with the lobsterlike crayfish of the Australian streams.

Some of these animals were tested with a simpler form of maze like those used with ants. All that was needed was a small glass tube in the shape of a letter Y, into the bottom single leg of which the crayfish was introduced. One of the branches was closed, so that the crayfish who chose that route had to back out and start over again. The other branch was open and led to food. Most of these animals soon learned to choose the correct branch and find the food.

Memory of this persisted for several days after it had once been learned.

Finally, there are the experiments of Mr. H. B. Hovey of the University of Oregon with marine flatworms, similar to the worms occasionally found underneath flower-pots in moist spots in a greenhouse.

These marine flatworms naturally run away from light and hide instantly in some crevice if light is turned on them.

On the other hand, they tend to stand still instantly and "play dead" if they are touched.

By combining these stimuli in various ways, Mr. Hovey succeeded in mixing them up in the worm's tiny brain so that the impulse to move away from the light was stopt by a slight touch at the same time.

So that the fundamental biological conclusion is that mankind, for all its exceptional abilities and trainings, is not very different in its ways of learning from the lowliest insect or the still more lowly flatworms and crayfish.

Stage Fright

THE cure for it is "almost too simple," says a French physician.

Certain people, writes Dr. Pierre Vachet in *Volonte* (Paris) are predisposed to emotions—people with a "hyperemotive" constitution. Among these are the timid and the victims of stage fright.

Timidity is a moral and physical inadequacy going at times to the length of active and actual agony. It takes possession of the individual at a rate reflected in higher pulse beats, redness of face, confusion of utterance.

Such is the man who actually blushes when he is spoken to, who would rather flee than talk to a woman. If he is in a public hall, obliged to speak before an audience, he becomes stupid and stutters or lisps or hesitates for a word.

Some timid men are afraid to say a word to an employer, even when the word is timely and important. They are dumb in the presence of a man or woman of great importance. Writes Dr. Vachet:

The victim feels weakened and agonized; he thinks that everything around him is crashing, and this sense works itself out in a sensation of physical distress.

As his fear overcomes him he loses his memory; the intellectual powers are inhibited, and a sort of vertigo sets in.

Vision is affected adversely, and the victim can scarcely hear his own voice.

All the bodily functions may be paralyzed—breath may be in gasps, the circulation of the blood is feverishly swift, heart-beats are accentuated, there are gastrointestinal troubles, accompanied by redness or paleness of the face.

The famous tenor Nourrit abandoned his career in opera because of stage fright.

Waldeck-Rousseau, the famous French statesman, endured agonies of fear every time he had to step toward the tribune to make a speech. The list could be prolonged indefinitely.

Stage fright is the real explanation of many a wrecked career. The doctor goes on:

This psychic malady should be dealt with on psychical lines of healing. The "emotive" faculty should be educated anew, and the imagination should be trained afresh on the theory that mental image and physical sensation are closely related.

It is enough to fancy that one is eating a lemon to find the tongue acidulated, the membranes inclined to precipitate saliva, and the muscles disposed to contract.

The image of perfect self-control, of calmness, need but be called up in the forum of the fancy.

The cure seems almost too simple.

Whistle to It.—CUSTOMER—"I think I'll take one of those live lobsters."

DEALER (picking out one)—"Shall I wrap this up?"

CUSTOMER—"Yes, unless you think it's tame enough to follow me home."—*Boston Transcript.*

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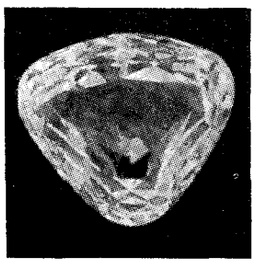
Personal Glimpses

Diamonds and Tears—also Tear Gas!

TWO historic jewels, rival candidates for the spotlight of publicity and the wistful wonder of the crowd, are shooting their dazzling beams from the news columns.

Each is worth a banker's ransom, at pre-depression valuations of diamonds and of bankers.



The Nassak

Both could be stuck in one's watch-pocket without causing a bulge much bigger than a fat and stubby cigar, but that bulge would represent some three-quarters of a million dollars.

The larger of these lustrous treasures is the famous Nassak diamond, which is to be one of the countless attractions at Chicago's colossal World's Fair, "A Century of Progress."

PERHAPS never in the history of the world has any property been guarded with such elaborate scientific safeguards as are being installed for the exhibition of this great jewel, as we shall see presently.

The other famous diamond is our old friend, the Hope, with its lovely blue color and its long legend of tragedy and wo since Tavernier, the French traveler, brought it from the East and sold it to Louis XIV for 2,500,000 francs and letters of nobility.

Mrs. Evelyn Walsh McLean, who has dazzled Washington by wearing the Hope diamond to diplomatic parties, is trying to raise money on it to save the Washington *Post* for her sons, and that brings the romantic tale of its vicissitudes into current history.

That tale, as we shall see, involves such contrasting figures as Marie Antoinette, Queen of France, and May Yohe, the American "girl with the foghorn voice."

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Mrs. McLean "Has It On"

See if you can spy the Hope diamond at the very bottom of the oval.

First let us see how the Nassak diamond is going to be guarded at Chicago's great exposition, while thousands of tourists daily stare it in the face. In its "super-protected cabinet," it will be a part of the display of the international diamond interests, the Century of Progress announces in an official statement widely quoted in the press. We read further:

White men first saw the Nassak diamond early in the twelfth century in the temple of Siva at Nassak, India, as the right eye of the god Siva. In the wars of the British East India Company during the eighteenth century, Nassak was looted and the diamond taken by soldiers to London. It weighs 78⅝ carats and is a flawless blue-white stone.

The Hope

The famous gem will be guarded day and night by armed guards in gas-masks, by tear gas, and by the sleepless "electric eye" of the photoelectric cell. It will be in a cabinet of burglar-proof glass, inside of which is a drill-proof safe of special design. The top of the safe folds back, allowing the cushion on which the Nassak diamond rests to rise and be displayed above the safe.

Any blow to the glass case automatically causes the gem to sink into the safe and immediately releases a flood of tear gas. Guards in gas-masks will then close in, should such an emergency arise, and await reenforcements from a near-by detective squad-room, where an alarm is sounded.

IT'S evident that anybody trying to purloin the Nassak diamond would start some weird phenomena. On the whole, it wouldn't be a healthy undertaking. Those photoelectric eyes are trouble-makers.

Turning to the Hope diamond, we find that the stone has had many admirers. Its expert historians believe that the Tavernier stone, which was drop-shaped, was disguised after being filched from the crown jewels during the French Revolution, by being divided into two stones—the large end and the small end of the drop. The Hope is the large one. Edwin Streeter, in "The Great Diamonds of the World," calls it "a very lovely gem, of a most beautiful sapphire hue, with an adamantine luster of extreme brilliancy."

The recutting necessary after its cleavage from its smaller end, left it weighing 44½ carats. The original Tavernier stone, somewhat ill-formed, weighed 67½ carats.

According to some writers, Tavernier, who sold it to Louis XIV, was ultimately "torn to pieces by wild dogs." More sober

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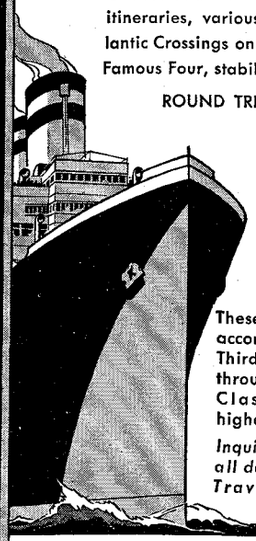

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accounts make no mention of that unpleasantness, but it seems to be agreed that the great traveler had a lot of trouble, fleeing from France as a Huguenot, and at length dying more or less miserably in Moscow.

Further we are told by Isidore Kozminsky in "The Magic and Science of Jewels and Stones" (Putnam's):

After wearing this diamond at a Court ball, Madame de Montespan lost the favor of her royal lover. It was a stone of ill fortune for Marie Antoinette, to whom, however, all diamonds were unfortunate. After the tragic death of Louis XVI and his queen, the stone was stolen with the French regalia. Afterward it is stated to have been stolen from Fals, the Dutch gem-cutter, by his son. Fals died a broken-

Madame de Montespan
Wore It, and Lost Her Royal Boy Friend

hearted man, and his son, after selling the gem to François Beaulieu, went insane and killed himself. Beaulieu, after selling the stone to Daniel Eliason, a London dealer, died suddenly the following day. Mr. Eliason sold it to Mr. Thomas Philip Hope, banker, in 1830. Mr. Hope's grandson, Lord Henry Francis Hope, married May Yohe, in 1894.

THAT brings the Hope diamond within the ken of American readers. May Yohe, born in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, had made a great hit in London with her comic songs and antics. 'Twas there she was dubbed "the girl with the foghorn voice." King Edward VII admired her, and so did many Edwardians.

Lord Henry Francis Pelham-Clinton-Hope was an agreeable young spendthrift, the second son of the Duke of Newcastle, whom he was one day to succeed. In the New York of the lobster-palace era, Lord and Lady Francis Hope were familiar figures at Rector's, among such local celebrities as Lillian Russell, "Diamond Jim" Brady, Edna Wallace Hopper, Harry Thaw, and so on. Lady Francis was pretty and jolly, a bit of a tomboy.

She never wore the Hope diamond to Rector's, and neither did she become the

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Duchess of Newcastle. Without warning she eloped with Capt. Putnam Bradlee Strong. They sailed to Japan. May Yohe is now Mrs. Jan Smuts, cooking her husband's meals and tending her home-like flat in the Dorchester district of Boston. She laughs at the "curse" of the Hope diamond, according to the Boston *Post*, and

Old Print Shop

Marie Antoinette

Didn't Find It a Lucky Stone.

has no regrets over not being the Duchess of Newcastle.

LORD FRANCIS got a divorce in 1902, and later married an Australian banker's daughter. According to the New York *Sun:*

Lord Francis Hope, deserted and bankrupt, sold the stone to Simon Frankel, a New York broker, in November, 1901. Mr. Frankel met with financial reverses and was compelled to sell it to Jacques Colot of Paris, who committed suicide. Prince Ivan Kanitovski, its next owner, was killed by revolutionists, and Lorens Ladue, to whom he loaned it, was murdered by her lover.

Simon Montharides, who next obtained possession of the stone and sold it to the Sultan Abdul Hamid, was thrown over a precipice while riding with his wife and child, and all were killed. Abdul Hamid paid $400,000 for the stone. After passing through various hands with a never-varying history of misfortune attending it, the stone was sold at the Hotel Drouot in Paris to a broker named Rosenau.

It next turned up in the stock of Cartier's, New York and Paris gem-dealers, who sold it to Edward B. McLean, the then millionaire son of John R. McLean, publisher, of Cincinnati and Washington.

McLean bought the diamond for his wife early in 1912. Cartiers sued him for $180,000 and the suit was settled. In May, 1919, the McLeans' infant son, Vinson McLean, the most closely guarded child on earth, rushed from his nurse's side into the street in Washington and was killed by an automobile. Since then McLean has lost his wife and his newspaper, and is an exile abroad. And now Mrs. McLean, who was independently rich when she married Ned McLean, appears to be pretty much down to the Hope diamond, which she is trying to dispose of.

A Bachelor Judge Judges Women

MARRIED men, he once said, become cowards, and that, perhaps, is why one of the handsomest men on the British bench remained immune to the arts of women and never dulled the sharpness of his wit.

Or it may have been the matter of female raiment. "I have read," he said on one occasion, "that it used to take two sheep to clothe a woman. To-day I am assured that it takes but a single silkworm."

At any rate, "the Bachelor Judge," as Sir Henry Alfred McCardie, of the King's Bench Division of the High Court, was known, affected a wide knowledge of the ladies, and was once rebuked by Lord Chief Justice Scrutton for describing the proper clothing they may wear. In fact, he was famous for his pithy and unconventional findings and for the latitude he allowed himself in delivering an opinion, whether from the bench or public platform, and whether it concerned governmental administration or the domestic scene.

FOR example, he frequently took occasion to recommend wide-spread dissemination of information on birth control, particularly for the poor. He was outspoken in favor of sterilization of the unfit. The law he once described as "a branch of sociology." He was rebuked by Prime Minister MacDonald for approving the action of Gen. Reginald Dyer, a British commander in the Punjab, who ordered troops to fire without warning on an illegal gathering at Amritsar, on April 13, 1919, with the result that more than 300 natives were killed and 1,200 others were wounded.

But Jolly May Yohe

Laughs at the Old Hope "Curse."

Influenza quenched his fire. He was found dead, one morning, with a shotgun between his knees. A string tied to the trigger told the story.

But his fame was too bright to be quickly dulled, and the press on both sides of the

ΦBK

yet he flunked feminology

A SHORT CHEER for this poor boy . . . and a *very* short one. When he figured that the ladies love a pipe smoker, he was right. But he ought to be told that they don't like heavy, soft-coal tobacco, in a soggy chimney of a pipe. He'll pass "feminology" the minute he starts smoking Sir Walter Raleigh in a well-kept briar. This fast-growing brand pleases the persons at both the stem and the bowl ends of the pipe by its aromatic mildness and rich, satisfying flavor. Young man, on your way to Greek class, stop in any tobacco store and spend the most useful 15 cents you ever dropped on a counter for a tin of Sir Walter Raleigh Tobacco. It's kept fresh in gold foil.

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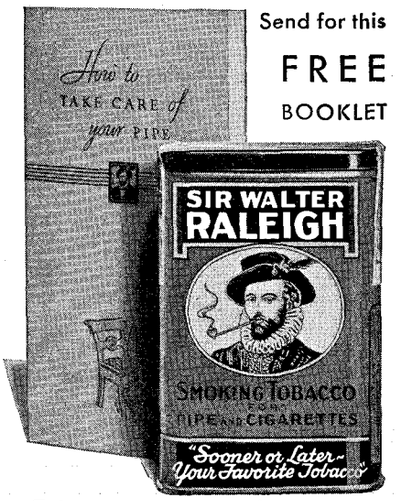

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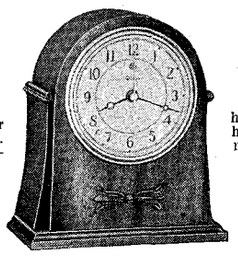

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Kindly send me information and costs on screens.

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Atlantic resurrected some of his observations on the rights of women and the grave issues of bed and board, on which he was particularly inclined to comment.

IN the famous "Helen of Troy" case he refused damages to a husband who charged that another man had "enticed away" his wife.

"For the last fifty years," Justice McCardie said, "the position of married women has changed in this country," and he went on, as the New York *Herald Tribune* quotes him in a copyrighted dispatch:

"I must tell you that a woman's body does not belong to her husband. It is her own property: it is not his.

"A woman can leave her husband by her own will. She may choose her own occupation. She may decide whether she will bear children or not, and she may decide when each child shall be born.

"The married woman of this country has gained her freedom. She is a citizen, not a serf."

When a husband was sued in his court for payment of the wife's dress bills, Justice McCardie delivered a homily on woman's raiment, in part thus:

"The dress of woman has been ever the mystery, and, sometimes, the calamity, of the ages.

"I might well infer that it is true, in some cases, to-day, as it was when Ovid wrote 1,900 years ago: 'The woman is the least part of herself.' . . . Mrs. Blank forgot that those who possess substantial means are trustees to use them with prudence, charity, and propriety. She forgot that ostentation is the worst form of vulgarity. She ignored the sharp menace of future penury. . . .

"Well was it said by Hazlitt in one of his essays: 'Those who make their dress the principal part of themselves will, in general, become of no more value than their dress.'"

"The Bachelor Judge" could also speak unflatteringly of women, on occasion. Discussing the woman perjurer, he once said:

"Nothing can exceed the skill, self-confidence, and the audacious reliance on sex that she so frequently displays. She has also a histrionic sense which is not, as a rule, possest by the male. Many women, alas! seem to have a peculiar faculty for an attractive and plausible presentment of false evidence."

HE had small opinion of women on juries. "They are attentive, careful, and often intellectual," he said; "but they are too emotional, too nervous, too inexperienced in indispensable matters concerning human life."

Playing Favorites.—An English temperance enthusiast was concluding his address. "Friends," he said, "I have lived here all my life. In this town there are fifty public houses, and I am proud to say that I have never been in one of them."

From the back of the hall came the question, "And which one is that?"—*Boston Transcript.*

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A Real Eastern Despot

KING ABDUL AZIZ IBN SAUD, the Wahhabi master of Arabian lands from the Persian Gulf to the Red Sea, is one of the most significant figures of the day—the mightiest Arab, possibly, since the time of the Prophet Mohammed, declares Kenneth Williams in the London *Evening Standard*.

He is now planning an agreement of mutual recognition with the Emir Abdullah of Transjordan, which will bring peace to the desert at last—the crowning triumph of his career.

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If a man steal with his hand, let the offending member be cut off. There needed not many such examples.

Here is a story to illustrate Ibn Saud's imperious way. When he conquered the Hejaz, his first care was for the protection of the pilgrims, who, as he knew, had previously been fleeced on their way to and from the Holy Cities.

The chief of the marauding tribes was the Harb. When their representative came to make submission to the Wahhabi conqueror, he explained that the tribe could not forego the privilege of levying tribute on the pilgrims. "This," he added, "is our right, and we would rather have our noses cut off than surrender it."

"Take that man away," replied Ibn Saud laconically, "and cut off his nose."

It was done.

Charging It Up

HAMLIN H. FREER, once dean of Cornell college, started an "account" years ago.

The Rev. Otis Moore recalled that "account" with the appointment of W. Frank Persons, formerly of Renwick, Iowa, to direct President Roosevelt's reforestation army of 250,000 jobless men, we read in a Tipton, Iowa, dispatch to the Des Moines *Register*.

When Mr. Freer was dean, a young man by the name of Edward T. Devine was graduated, and started looking for a teaching job. He was a brilliant scholar, but very youthful in appearance. School boards thought him too young to teach.

Finally he told Dean Freer of his difficulty. The dean boarded a train and stopt at several towns until he finally landed young Devine a job.

Young Devine was grateful.

"What," he asked, "can I do to show my gratitude for help?"

"Edward," the dean replied, "when you get a chance to help some other young fellow, do it and charge it to my account."

When Frank Persons graduated from college he went to see Edward Devine, then secretary of the Organized Charities of New York City, about a job.

Devine finally found him a position, and Persons tried to express his gratitude.

Devine told him the story of Dean Freer and said:

"Frank, this is on Dean Freer's account. When you get a chance to help some young man get a job, charge it to my account."

Later Persons himself became secretary of New York charities, according to the Rev. Mr. Moore. Now he is helping 250,000 men find jobs, and charging a part, perhaps, to Dean Freer's account.

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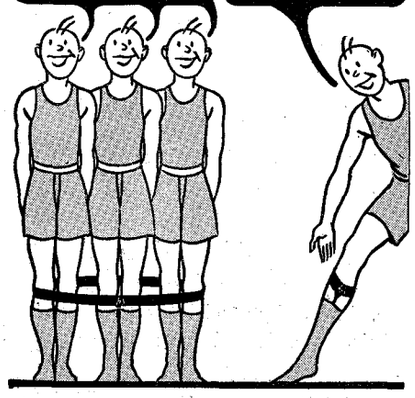

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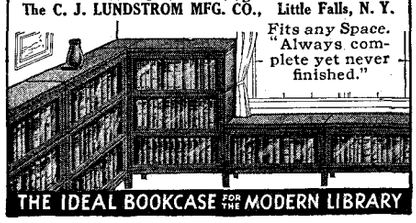

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He Knew His Uncle Bertie

WHENEVER King Edward came to Germany while he was still Prince of Wales, the regiment with which he had been invested by my father tendered a special reception to him, writes the ex-Crown Prince Wilhelm in *Liberty*. The King was rather heavy and, like Bismarck, did not like to dine in the tight military collar. He relished his cigar after dinner, but he did not like to inhale other people's smoke. Knowing this, I conspired with the colonel of the regiment, von Baerensprung.

While the festive banquet was going on, the colonel continually yanked at his collar. His actions caught the attention of the King.

"What's the matter with your collar?" he asked.

"I beg your Majesty's pardon," the colonel replied, apparently somewhat embarrassed, "but we are accustomed when we are among ourselves to open our collars while we are eating."

"Very well—" said the King delightedly, "then we will do the same to-day." And with immense relief released his neck from its bondage.

After dinner the colonel offered the King a fat cigar and lit his own without offering a smoke to his officers.

"Is smoking forbidden here," the King asked, "or are all your officers opposed to nicotine?"

"No, your Majesty," replied Baerensprung; "but we are accustomed to give a quarter of an hour's instruction after each dinner, during which my officers never smoke. And it is perhaps better if they do not get into the habit."

The King winked understandingly. By this time he understood, no doubt, the delicate consideration shown to his idiosyncrasies. He told me afterward that he never enjoyed himself more than at that dinner. "It was," he said, "extraordinarily *gemuetlich*. And *Gemuetlichkeit* is one of the things which most kings must forego!"

Beavers Tackle a Big Job

Without the sanction or even the knowledge of the war department, a new dam is being built in the Allegheny River 105 miles above Pittsburgh. This startling news has caused a sensation in river circles, according to the Tarentum (Pa.) *Valley Daily News*.

The site of the new "project" is in the St. George Channel, fifteen miles above Emlenton, a section of the river which has been given but scant consideration by the War Department, so far as the building of a dam is concerned.

But it makes no difference, the dam—a rather crude structure—is rapidly taking form under the direction of the most expert engineers and energetic workers.

The dam builders, as you may or may not have guessed, are beavers. They arrived on the scene only a short time ago. Within a day or two they set to work felling two- and three-inch trees along the river. These trees, about fifty of them, have been floated into place by the busy little creatures and already have started to back up the water. Meanwhile the beavers are busy as only beavers can be felling trees. An area as large as a city lot has been cut and the work is going forward rapidly.

It is seldom that a stream the size of the Allegheny comes in for attention from these industrious little builders, and it seems a very ambitious undertaking. Many interested persons have considered a trip to St. George well worth the effort to see the colony at work.

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CURRENT POETRY

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WHILE we all think politically in these days, we ought to relish some poetry along that line, and of course the best is satirical. Here is an international problem ventilated in *The New Statesman and Nation* (London):

THE OTHER CHEEK

BY MACFLECKNOE

This waving of the fiscal sword
  Is brisk and brave and J.-H.-Thomassy;
I wonder, though, can we afford
  To push too far the new diplomacy—
Which threatens, when offenders fail
  Of due regard for our upbraiding,
Immediate measures to curtail
  Our much diminished foreign trading?

We yet may rue the price to pay,
  In dearer goods and markets shattered,
For teaching to the I.R.A.
  How much the Treaty really mattered;
And boycotts upon Soviet trade
  (As many quiet folk are fearing)
Are not the surest course to aid
  The engineers—or engineering.

Then there are others—we may learn
  Of some crude Nazi demonstration,
Which means that Germany in turn
  Is listed for discrimination;
While from the U. S. A. one sees
  (That great although no longer dry land)
Some nasty tales of third degrees,
  And dirty work at Ellis Island.

Forgive these doubts! One likes to think
  That Britain is not to be played with—
Yet unemployment will not shrink
  When there is no one left to trade with;
Nor are we taught that, if one cheek
  Be smitten by an erring brother,
The Christian ethic bids us seek
  To smite ourselves upon the other.

MEMORIAL verses keep coming for Sara Teasdale, and what better device than to build one on her own lines. In *Poetry* (Chicago):

RELEASE

For Sara Teasdale

BY LAURA LEE BIRD

"I was a sister of the sky"—
Now, with skies, celestial fair,
Burning, burning, the wild stars
Cling and shimmer in your hair.

"Lost as a sob in the midst of cheering"—
Suddenly I know you gone.
You, a flame of song's high burning,
Lose the world of flesh and stone.

"Swept as a sea-bird out to sea"—
Bearing my heart clear out of me,
Rising above all stars that be—
How is it, spirit, to be free?

"There in the windy flood of morning"—
One with the gleaming, dawn-unpinned,
One with suns that climb the heaven,
You ascend the soaring wind.

"Longing lifted its weight from me,"
Shackles loosen. Wings, made free,
Leave the earth on sound of singing.
Spirit, circle over me!

SOMETHING of DeQuincy's fantasy in this apostrophe to the flowers diverted to soporific uses. In *The London Mercury:*

THE BOTTLE

BY WALTER DE LA MARE

Of green and hexagonal glass,
  With sharp, fluted sides—
Vaguely transparent these walls,
  Wherein motionless hides
A simple so potent it can
  To oblivion lull
The weary, the racked, the bereaved,
  The miserable.

Flowers in silent desire
  Their life-breath exhale—
Self-heal, hellebore, aconite,
  Chamomile, dwale:
Sharing the same gentle heavens,
  The sun's heat and light,
And, in the dust at their roots,
  The same shallow night.

Each its own livelihood hath,
  Shape, pattern, hue;
Age on to age unto these
  Keeping steadfastly true;
And, musing amid them, there moves
  A stranger, named Man,
Who of their ichor distils
  What virtue he can.

Plucks them ere seed-time to blazon
  His house with their radiant dyes;
Prisons their attar in wax;
  Candies their petals; denies
Them freedom to breed in their wont;
  Buds, fecundates, grafts them at will;
And with cunningest leechcraft compels
  Their good to his ill.

Intrigue fantastic as this
  Where shall we find?
Mute in their beauty they serve him,
  Body and mind.
And one—but a weed in his wheat—
  Is the poppy—frail, pallid, whose juice
With its saplike and opiate fume
  Strange dreams will induce

Of wonder and horror. And none
  Can silence the soul,
Wearied of self and of life,
  Earth's darkness and dole,
More secretly, deeply. But finally?—
  Waste not thy breath;
The words that are scrawled on this phial
  Have for synonym, death—

Wicket out into the dark
  That swings but one way;
Infinite hush in an ocean of silence
  Aeons away;
Thou forsaken?—ev'n thou?
  The dread good-bye;
The abandoned, the thronged, the watched, the unshared—
  Awaiting me—I!

A DELICATE fancy of love unending in *Harper's:*

OUR ELDERS

BY JASON BOLLES

You and I have seen children make believe
That they were old and watched them at their play
And hid our laughter in a grown-up sleeve.
Now we, no whit more serious than they,
Say we are lovers. Who knows but it may
Be that when we two sit before the fire,
Cheek against cheek, and talk late hours away,
Our elders come a-tiptoe and admire?
Gray wraiths of faroff yesterdays' desire—
Dead lords and ladies dressed in ancient style—
Gaze upon you and me and turn their dire
Eyes to each other, lips to grim lips smile?
Whispering soft, unheard by you and me,
"Bless them! pretending our maturity!"

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Sales-tax Puzzles

THE SALES-TAX PLAN goes sailing along with its cargo of headaches both for him who pays the tax and him who collects it.

What is taxable and what is not; and under what circumstances? Shall the retailer absorb the levy or pass it on to the ultimate consumer? In the latter case, what is to be done when the tax on an individual sale is less than a penny?

Illinois's sales tax (3 per cent.) went into effect April 1, New York's (1 per cent.) on May 1. Prior to these dates nine States had one form or another of sales tax—Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, West Virginia. This list does not take into consideration numerous chain-store taxes levied by States. And in twenty more Commonwealths one variety or another of sales tax has lately been debated. These States are: Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin.

The sales tax is spread broadly and thinly, say its proponents. You will never notice it. The New York tax, according to Mark Graves of the State Tax Commission, will increase the average family's annual expenses about $7.50.

On the other hand, Nelson Streit, director of the Retail Dry Goods Association of New York, points out that, according to Harvard Business School Statistics, the average sale was made at a loss of 5.2 per cent. last year. Mr. Streit continues, according to the New York *Sun:*

"No merchant would object to paying a 1 per cent. sales tax if that was all there was to it. In good times—say, 1929—the average profit was 1½ per cent. on each sale, and the stores made their money through multiplicity of sales.

"But now the Legislature is trying to put us back to the 1929 level by a book law without considering the economic factors. It is trying to say, 'You take 1 per cent. of the profits and we'll take one-half of 1 per cent!' That is fine if you can assume that business is moving along at the 1929 level, but it obviously is not. Most stores can not absorb such a tax. Only the strong can survive, and the hope of the others rests in the performance of some miracle in Washington."

IN New York, the sales tax, which remains in effect only until June 30, 1934, is expected to produce $30,000,000 a year. Illinois hopes to get from $3,000,000 to $5,000,000 a month, all to be used for relief. Whether these hopes will be realized can not now be predicted.

The New York law imposes a 1 per cent. levy on retail sales. Food, in the main, is exempted. So are gasoline, already taxed, and electricity, gas, steam, and water. In Illinois the rate is 3 per cent.; and it is easy to imagine the complications that arise when the tax on an individual sale is less than a penny.

The highly important question of whether dealers will themselves absorb the tax or pass it on to the buyer remains very much up in the air. Important New York stores have decided to pass it on. But *The Sun* also outlines two other view-points. A second group believes that the levy should be absorbed, while a third is in favor of absorption in low-priced lines, and passing on the added cost in the case of more expensive merchandise.

Nor are these the only problems, we learn as *The Sun's* account continues:

Ostensibly the tax applies to everything except food, gasoline, and the public services. Yet there is great confusion as to what is taxable and what is not. Is ice-cream consumed at a soda-fountain a food? Would it be if it were consumed at a table?

This was only one of the puzzlers that confronted Commissioner Graves. If it is a food, it is tax free; but if it is a sweet like candy, it is subject to a tax of $1 on every $100 worth sold. But, then, is candy a food?

Mr. Graves says his department is making a survey of the tax to clear up little confusing points like this. He expects to announce his findings soon.

Then there are the border-line products. A thing may be a luxury and still be a necessity. Which is it? The druggists are concerned about this.

Reports from other cities in the State indicate that the merchants outside New York City are having their problems. Seventy-one retailers from nineteen cities met in Syracuse and agreed that the tax should be absorbed by the consumer. They took no definite action, however, and refused to work out any set plan.

WHILE these comparatively abstract discussions were in progress, the problem was highly personalized at State offices in New York City, where an excited crowd milled about seeking light on dark matters. Borrowing from a description of the scene by Douglas Gilbert in the New York *World-Telegram:*

"Lissen, I got two truckloads o' sand goin' out to ——. Do I pay tax?" It was for building construction. The seller must pay. For, the genial supervisor of the Tax Bureau, Wesley M. Dawson, will inform you, the law is really a license tax "upon the privilege to sell." The seller is, therefore, responsible for the tax payment. It is he who collects from the buyer.

Hilary Ginsburg, a second-hand dealer in the Bronx, wanted to know where he stood on the sale of used sewing-machines. One per cent. on the line, Mr. Ginsburg, payable during July.

"Mister," said one of an excited pair arguing together before a clerk, "my brother here is buyin' my car. Do we have to pay a tax?" The seller does (charging it to the buyer, of course); all personal sales of personal property are taxable.

Which brings us to the matter of exemptions—and Mr. Dawson threw up his hands. Sales of fruit are exempt, since they are regarded as foodstuffs. Fruit sirups are taxable; that is, for the most part they are, the commission hasn't gotten around to defining this precisely. Interstate commerce transactions are exempt.

Which is about the only break Cornelius Commuter ever got. For example, if you reside in Montclair, New Jersey, and purchase a suit at Gimmacy's, the purchase is not taxable if you have it sent. If you walk out with it the store must collect the tax.

To prevent deception better, to obviate as far as possible, all attempts at profiteering, will require a considerable staff.

In relation to profiteering Mr. Dawson offers this economic precept as a check:

"The force of competition," explained the supervisor, "we expect will eliminate attempts to profiteer. Competition will serve as a check here, since no merchant, under the subterfuge of a tax, will have the temerity to charge more for his goods than his competitor."

IN Illinois, the constitutionality of the sales tax (3 per cent. on all retail sales except of gasoline) is under fire in the State Supreme Court, and a good deal of uncertainty exists regarding the future. And this is not the only difficulty that has developed, according to S. J. Duncan-Clarke in a Chicago dispatch to the New York *Times:*

Protests against the tax come from communities within easy reach by automobile of towns in neighboring States that have no sales tax, or that have, as in the case of Indiana, a lower tax. Merchants in such communities fear loss of trade through its diversion to markets where the levy is not imposed.

Many complaints have been registered from Chicago and down-State communities against alleged profiteering. Undoubtedly excuse exists, and probably sound basis for such complaints. When a customer makes a ten-cent purchase and is asked for an additional penny, he does not need to be a mathematician to realize that he is paying at a rate of 10 per cent. when the law demands only 3. The law made no provision for taking care of fractional payments, and it is obvious that the chance for cheating exists in the situation.

In some down-State communities chambers of commerce have issued tokens, valued at a quarter of a cent. Cooperating merchants use these in collecting the tax on five- and ten-cent purchases, charging the penny, if the customer lacks a token, but giving him three tokens in change which he can use in paying taxes on further fractional purchases.

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If All the Gold Were Sunk

HOW GOOD IS GOLD? That is, how much of its value is intrinsic, and how much resides in our mind—in the fact that we believe in its value?

The question is timely and important in these days of "controlled inflation." Export of gold is prohibited. The dollar is being allowed to seek its own level. We shall see—and see soon in all probability—whether we are any the worse off for this phase of President Roosevelt's "new deal."

If all the gold in the world were sunk to the bottom of the sea, how much should we suffer? Provided we didn't know of the sinking.

A fable with a brace of morals on this subject is passed on to us by Thomas F. Woodlock in *The Wall Street Journal*. Mr. Woodlock attributes it to an unknown author.

The nations of the earth, the narrative runs, "finally got to the point where the 'gold' standard was universally adopted and a 'world bank' was established to hold all the world's gold as a reserve for all the world's currencies and to clear the world's international business. This reserve naturally had to be kept in a safe place." And so:

There was chosen for this purpose a remote island in the Pacific which was impregnably fortified and provided with vaults of the strongest type protected by time-locks so arranged as to open only once a year, on December 31. All the world's gold was duly deposited in these vaults, and the island left to its garrison.

Once a year the committee on inspection visited the island—no other visitors were ever allowed to land—and duly verified the presence of the gold. For years the world bank cleared the world's international business on the strength of this gold reserve which also secured the world's currencies.

Finally, there came a year when the ship bearing the committee on inspection came to the spot where the island ought to be, and found no island.

Some volcanic disturbance had wiped it out. What was to do?

After prolonged debate it was determined by the committee that inasmuch as no occasion had ever required any withdrawals from the gold "reserve," and inasmuch as every one seemed satisfied so long as the reserve was there, the only thing to do was to certify its presence as usual, and see that every succeeding committee on inspection did the same thing. Which they did, and, as the old story-books used to say, the world lived happily ever afterwards.

AND now for the morals Mr. Woodlock finds in the parable. The first is "that even so far as gold is concerned, it is credit that is the important thing. It is the limitation upon credit imposed by the necessity of keeping its volume in relation to something *fixt*" that matters, and "gold furnishes that limitation. Theoretically," the writer proceeds:

There is no reason why the limit thus fixt could not be fixt by purely rational methods. This would be the "managed" currency of which we so often talk. The only trouble with "managed" currency as a fact is that thus far the human race has not the necessary confidence in the skill of the "managers."

The story bears another moral, and that is that gold's essential function in the present state of the world is such that it should never be coined, or directly represented in currency, in the way in which gold certificates now represent gold coin.

All gold reserves should be held in bullion, and when gold has to move it should move as bullion.

It is evident that "we must refine our methods in using gold and operating the 'gold standard,'" the writer in *The Wall Street Journal* tells us as he approaches the conclusion:

For some time to come we must put up with some restrictions on foreign exchange so as to make large and unexpected shifts of "capital" from one country to another more difficult and expensive. Movements of this sort in the last few years have been a continuous source of acute disturbances in all the financial centers.

If the world is to be brought back to the gold standard, such disturbances must be minimized. This means regulation. Its principle must be freedom for real trade settlements and careful supervision of all other operations. But we must make up our minds to considerable regulation.

Savings-Banks Unscathed

IN THESE TIMES OF CLOSED BANKS and distrust of bankers it seems very significant to a New York savings-bank president that the mutual savings-banks of the country should have come through "the banking holocaust unscathed." And now, continues Darwin R. James, president of the East River Savings Bank, these banks are "serenely pursuing the even tenor of their way."

Naturally, Mr. James, writing in *The Dun and Bradstreet Monthly Review*, has the New York banks uppermost in his mind. And he reminds us that "the savings-banks in New York State alone hold at the present time $5,000,000,000 of the more than $24,000,000,000 savings total of the country." Mr. James seems proud to say that "no New York State savings-bank has closed since 1911, and the 'sixty-day clause' which protects their depositors in times of panic has been invoked only once since that time—during the war hysteria of 1914." And even when it came to the crisis and near-panic in the opening days of March, any one visiting a savings-bank in New York, we are reminded, "would have witnessed a rush to open new accounts right along with the abnormal withdrawals of panic-stricken depositors." In this crisis, the writer states emphatically, the New York savings-banks continued to pay out on demand; the "sixty-day clause" was not invoked. The savings-banks kept on doing business as usual, until all the banks in the State were closed by the Governor's proclamation. And when they opened again they resumed business "with only temporary restrictions."

And so the savings-bank is described as "one of the greatest financial stabilizers this country possesses at the present time." These banks, we are reminded, have no stockholders, make no profits, and their investments are strictly regulated by State law. Altogether, eighteen States have "strictly mutual savings-bank laws." Of such banks Mr. James says:

In normal times they are taken very much for granted; in boom days, with public caution thrown to the winds, they are almost forgotten; but with the first hint of economic distress a stampede to these financial havens sets in. Not only the wage-earners, but the capitalists as well, have sought their shelter during the past three years.

Will Minor Motors Merge?

PERHAPS the only way out for the so-called "independent" automobile manufacturers is wholesale mergers, writes Ray B. Prescott, in the New York *Evening Post*.

We are reminded that in 1928 the thirteen independents—that is, the more important manufacturers besides Ford, General Motors, and Chrysler—sold one-third of the cars. In the first quarter of this year they were selling only 10 per cent.

Only one of the thirteen, according to this writer, has been able to keep on manufacturing at a profit, while only three have had anything like a profit since 1929. In 1932 these companies made 180,000 cars and all except one lost money.

The explanation is that these concerns have an aggregate operating capacity of about 1,250,000 cars a year. To break even they must produce 550,000 cars. To do this and keep up their percentage of sales as compared with the big three, the industry as a whole would have to produce more than 4,000,000 cars. As Mr. Prescott continues:

Production some day will return to a profitable basis, but not this year and hardly next. So it will be at least two years, and more likely three years, before these thirteen companies can expect to show sufficient volume to enable them to return a profit.

It also is equally clear they can not continue to lose money at their present rate and remain in business for two or three years, waiting for the needed volume to give them a profit.

A merger at this time among independents would save many from being eliminated in the next year or two at a great loss to themselves, their stockholders, and the industry.

The present operating capacity could be reduced so that the merged companies could make money on 250,000 cars.

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THE SPICE OF LIFE

(TITLE REGISTERED IN U. S. PATENT OFFICE)

Call the Sheriff.—"Shush!" said the young man who had fled the group of boresome débutantes. "I'm a fugitive from a Jane gang!"—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

Clearing the Decks.—"Let's get our wives together to-night and have a big evening."

"O.k., but where shall we leave them?"—*Annapolis Log.*

Anything for a Family Reunion.—"I'm thinking of opening a movie theater."

"Well, there's good money in that business."

"It isn't the money so much; but I'd like to see my wife and kids once in a while."—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

Birth of a Mutual Antipathy.—"Once a friend of mine and I agreed that it would be helpful for each of us to tell the other all our faults."

"How did it work?"

"We haven't spoken for five years."—*Detroit Free Press.*

How to Torture Your Fiancée.—"What made you quarrel with Merlin?"

"Well, he proposed to me again last night."

"Where was the harm in that?"

"My dear, I had accepted him the night before."—*Portland Oregonian.*

Professional Services Rendered.—A well-known attorney was always lecturing his office boy, whether he needed it or not. One day he chanced to hear the following conversation between the boy and the one employed next door:

"How much does your chief pay you?" asked the latter.

"I get $1,500 a year. Five dollars a week in cash and the rest in legal advice!"—*Washington Labor.*

Wider, Please.—DENTIST—"Which tooth do you want extracted?"

PULLMAN PORTER—"Lower seven."—*Western Reserve Red Cat.*

Small-Town Psychology.—When you see a married couple coming down the street the one who is two or three steps ahead is the one that's mad.—*Macksville (Kan.) Enterprise.*

Time to Tighten the Belt.—Racehorses do not eat the day before the race, according to a magazine article. And often we do not eat for days after the race.—*Atlanta Constitution.*

Silver Lining.—"My daughter's music lessons are a fortune to me."

"How is that?"

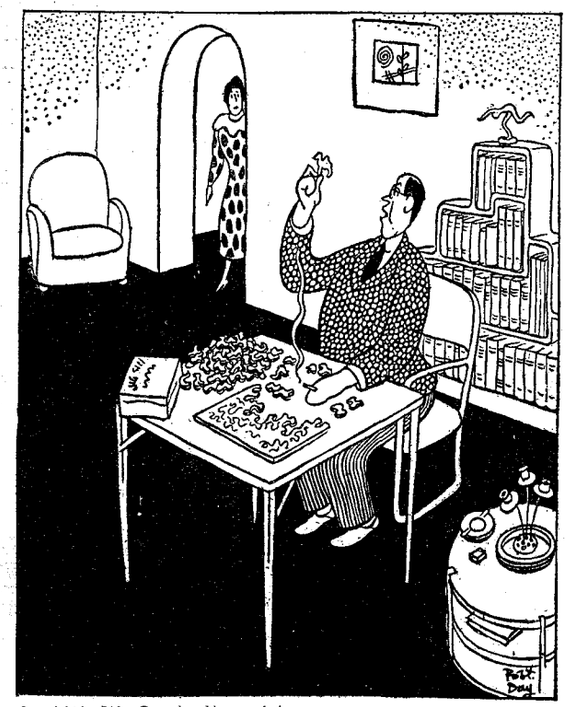
"They enable me to buy the neighbors' houses at half price."—*Gazzettino Illustrato (Venice).*

Bed of Glory.—SON—"Ma, what's the idea makin' me sleep on the mantelpiece every night?"

MOTHER—"Hush, sonny, you only have to sleep there two more weeks and then your picture will be in 'Believe it or Not.'"—*Annapolis Log.*

Falling Behind the Joneses.—FATHER—"It's a good plan, my dear, always to think before you speak."

DAUGHTER—"But, dad, when I do that the girls have changed the subject."—*Boston Transcript.*



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"For Pete's sake, tell Junior to keep his animal crackers out of my puzzles."
—"Life."

May Their Cup Never Cloy.—Cloys Potts, 23, and Serepta Coffee, 22, both of Peebles, secured a marriage license in Maysville, Kentucky, Monday and were married in that city.—*Cincinnati Enquirer.*

Shake the Table Cloth.—"Eliza," said a friend of the family to the old colored washwoman, "have you seen Miss Edith's fiancé?"

"No, ma'am. It ain't been in the wash yet."—*Annapolis Log.*

Bam.—

Mary had a little slam,
She let her partner know
Just what she had by one grand slam
Upon his shins below.
—*Cleveland Plain Dealer.*

Sharp Practise.—Mary Roberts Rinehart, writing in "My Story" about her resourceful grandmother, says: "Completely untrained and with no openings outside of school teaching for women in those days, she fell back on her needle." "Reminding one," comments A. W., "of the man who sat down on the spur of the moment."—*Washington Star.*

Slips That Pass in the Night

Clarifying the Beer Question.—No other State, a survey disclosed, prohibits the drinking of the anufac-em horizesandautbeer beer and authorizes the manufacture and sale of it.—*Nassau paper.*

Surprizes of Exploration.—Approximately 200,000 square miles of new territory were discovered and mapped during Admiral Byrd's Antcial variety of woolen petticoat dyed red, with blue and black stripes around the bottom.—*Raleigh News and Observer.*

Juicy Debate.—Kappa Gamma Tau, science club, wet Monday evening. A round table discussion of modern developments of science was held.—*Atlanta Journal.*

March of Knowledge.—George O. Sanford, engineer in the Department of the Interior, will deliver an illustrated lecture on "The Construction of the Hoover Dame." The public is invited.—*Washington Evening Star.*

Two Neck Mysteries, Watson.—One of the meanest crimes was recorded this week on Cape Cod near the Federated church in Hyannis, when the lifeless body of a fence in the rear of the church cat was found hanging from a grounds, with a rope tied about its neck.—*Plymouth (Mass.) paper.*

Dave P——, was found dead, hanging by his neck which had been tied around his throat.—*Marshall (Texas) paper.*

Pass Your Tallest Steins.—Purebred Brahma bulls were selected from Texas's best herds for use in developing a new type of beer cattle.—*New York Herald Tribune.*

Team Work.—This is W. R. Hearst's birthday and Americans hope that he will see many returns of April twenty-ninth.

Washington established this country, Lincoln preserved it, Edison lighted it, Ford put it on wheels and Hearst makes men think.—*New York American.*

Some Wild Night.—Last Saturday night proved to be a large night despite the rain, for nightowls, or house prowlers. Several men driving a ca with a shrill hon, and not sparing the noise, attempted to force front doors, jim windows, pilfer around garages, etc. Undoubtedly the bildness of those men may be attributed to over-indulgence of the well known spirits of whoopee water. Howeper a few buckshot sprinkled in the seat of their pants from a shotgun might have helped them realize their trespassing, and served to sober them up pronto.—*Clinton (Ky.) paper.*

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